

MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL ENHANCEMENT FOR MISSOURI DRUG COURTS

**A
RESEARCH REPORT
TO**

**State of Missouri
Office of State Courts Administrator**

***University of Missouri-Columbia
School of Social Work***

December 2001

This project was supported by Grant No. 1999-DC-VX-0135 awarded by the Drugs Program Office, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The points of view in this document are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official positions or policies of the Department of Justice.

For further information about the material contained in this study one may contact

Paul Sundet, Ph.D.
Anne Dannerbeck, Ph.D.
Kathy Lloyd, M.S.
School of Social Work
University of Missouri-Columbia
Columbia, MO 65211
(573) 882-0915
sundetp@missouri.edu

CONTENTS

<i>Executive Summary.....</i>	<i>iii</i>
<i>Introduction.....</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Participant Characteristics.....</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Adults.....</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Family.....</i>	<i>26</i>
<i>Juvenile.....</i>	<i>37</i>
<i>Arrest and Incarceration.....</i>	<i>48</i>
<i>Multi-Dimensions of Success.....</i>	<i>66</i>
<i>Adult Interviews.....</i>	<i>68</i>
<i>Family Interviews.....</i>	<i>89</i>
<i>Themes and Implications.....</i>	<i>103</i>
<i>Suggestions for Analysis and Change.....</i>	<i>117</i>
<i>Attachment I - Data Instruments.....</i>	<i>123</i>

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Multi-Jurisdictional Enhancement for Missouri Drug Courts

- Purpose of Study:* This research was designed to study 1) the extent to which drug court program goals are being met; 2) to develop a descriptive profile of drug courts, services and participants; and 3) to identify elements critical to successful outcomes.
- Background:* With rapid growth of drug courts throughout Missouri in the past five years, the Office of State Courts Administrator recognized the need for a systematic state-wide assessment of the practices, procedures and outcomes in order to fulfill its responsibilities to provide technical assistance and accurate data for policy makers. In 1999, OSCA, in cooperation with the School of Social Work, University of Missouri-Columbia, obtained a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice to conduct a two-year study of the most recently established courts.
- Methodology:* Fourteen courts (ten adult, three juvenile and one family) throughout the state were chosen for study. The adult courts in Kansas City and St. Louis City were not included because they had just completed extensive evaluations. Jurisdictions ranged in size from over one million to less than 35,000 and included pre and post plea courts. During the course of the study many courts added reentry and DWI components.
- Detailed analysis of the case files of all persons who entered the program prior to 8/00 and/or had completed drug court by 6/01 was conducted. This numbered 771 adults, 106 juveniles and 141 family court participants.
- Research staff did multiple on-site observations of all courts and structured interviews were conducted with seventy-eight drug court team members including all judges, prosecutors, public defenders, treatment providers and administrators.
- Systematic analyses and matching of local and state arrest and incarceration data were carried out using MSHP and DOC databases.
- A sample of program participants in all three categories (active, graduated and terminated) was interviewed. One hundred and ninety adults, five juveniles and nine family court participants were interviewed including some individuals currently incarcerated.

Findings:

Missouri drug courts are in substantial compliance with the federally established Ten Key Components and operate in a professional manner according to all legal and treatment canons. Surveillance is strict and standards of performance set high.

Courts are accepting difficult cases; 60% of those entering have failed at other previous treatment attempts and the average length of use for adults is over 14 years.

50.4% of the adults entering drug court successfully graduate. The family court graduation rate is 37.7% and 51.1% for juveniles. Success rates vary widely by race and gender.

"Drug of choice" is a major factor in success with cocaine and methamphetamine users least likely to successfully complete drug court requirements.

Full-time, consistent employment is one of the best predictors of success.

Only 8.7% of the graduates had a new arrest in the year following completion of the program and two-thirds of these arrests were for misdemeanors. By contrast 32.4% of those terminated had a new offense and over half of these were felonies.

The days served in incarceration is 17 times greater for terminated than graduated individuals and the cost differential, using the DOC cost-per-day formula is \$160,957.20 for graduates and \$2,801,652.36 for the terminated individuals.

At least 45 drug free babies were born to participants in these courts during this period.

Suggestions:

Among the recommendations arising from this research are the following:

1. Develop a targeted common data system for drug courts and provide technical assistance in implementing it.
2. Adopt an expanded diagnostic protocol to assist courts in screening referrals.
3. Further emphasize the need for "wrap-around" services in treatment provider contracts.
4. Accentuate the role of employment in success and design program components around this area.
5. Increase community linkages with support services in housing, mental and physical health and vocational services.
6. Provide stable funding for drug courts and consolidate the now scattered state sources to ensure better efficiency as well effectiveness.

INTRODUCTION:

Background and Overview of the Study

MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL ENHANCEMENT FOR EVALUATION OF MISSOURI DRUG COURTS

Summary Report Project Year 1 (January - December 2000) and Project Year 2 (January 2001 - December 2001)

Background:

The impetus for the *Multi-Jurisdictional Enhancement for Evaluation of Missouri Drug Courts* project came from the concerns expressed to the Office of State Courts Administrator by the Supreme Court, members of the General Assembly and drug court personnel that with the rapid growth of these programs throughout the state, little was known about commonalities and differences in actual practice and outcomes. Detailed evaluations are being conducted in some locale, notably St. Louis City and Jackson County but the state of practice across Missouri was unknown. With support from the Drug Courts Program Office, Office of Justice Programs, this evaluation effort was undertaken. The specified goals of the project were: 1) to determine the extent to which Drug Court program goals are being met; 2) to develop descriptive profiles of drug courts, their services and participants; and 3) to identify elements of programs critical to successful outcomes.

The University of Missouri-Columbia's School of Social Work was designated as the sole-source contractor for the project. Funding was secured from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs to support a two-year evaluation effort.

Organizational Structure:

This report represents the cooperative efforts of researchers from the University of Missouri-Columbia School of Social Work, the Missouri Office of State Courts Administrator, the Drug Court Evaluation Advisory Group and numerous individuals in each site who willingly gave of their time to assist in this project.

The overall direction of this evaluation comes from Ann Wilson, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Coordinator for OSCA and Gary Waint, director, Juvenile and Adult Courts Division, OSCA.

Design of the study, development of instruments, file analyses and interviews with drug court participants and staff were conducted by faculty and

students from the School of Social Work. Graduate research assistants were outstationed in areas throughout the state for a three-month period during the summers of 2000 and 2001 to perform both the quantitative and qualitative data gathering required. The University staff assigned to this project is as follows:

Dr. Paul Sundet, principle investigator
Dr. Anne Dannerbeck, grant manager
Kathy Lloyd, project manager
Rebecca Beck, GRA, southeast Missouri
Kristyn Fantroy, GRA, St. Louis
Dana Foster, GRA, northwest Missouri
Barry Johnson, GRA, southwest Missouri
Lisa Lazier, GRA, St. Louis
Jeanne Link, GRA, northwest Missouri
Amanda Loehr, GRA, southwest Missouri

The Drug Court Evaluation Technical Advisory Group was constituted to review research plans and instruments, provide advice and consultation to the research staff and assist in obtaining access to data sources within the community. The Advisory Group, as a validity/reliability check, reviewed all reports and documents emanating from this project before they were promulgated. Their assistance and guidance have been invaluable throughout the project. The members of this Group were as follows:

Dale Good	Buchanan County
Darrell Martin	Boone County
Pete Schmersahl	Boone County
Debbie Collins	Butler County
Curtis Hedricks	Christian County
Joe Ledl	Christian County
Steve Nelson	Cole County
Jay Hudson	Dunklin County
Julie Bartlett	Dunklin County
Bill Zeeck	Greene County
Mike Green	Greene County
Penny Howell	Jackson County
Molly Merrigan	Jackson County
Page Bellamy	Lafayette County
Michael Brown	Newton County
Mary Hines	Newton County
Gail White	St. Louis City
Sharon Bates	St. Louis City
Paul Fox	St. Louis County
John McMinn	Scott County

General Principles:

Guiding this evaluation effort are several principles of action that impact methodology and procedure. This is both a process and an outcome evaluation and as such it seeks to discover and document what is, not what ought to be. It is not an audit. Nor does it seek to compare one entity to another. The objective is a holistic picture of practice across the state. The objects being studied were themselves in a constant state of change and development. The evaluation itself is an impetus to and catalyst for such change. The common purpose of the drug court personnel and the evaluation staff is to make the best possible service available to the participants. The evaluation process should neither detract from service nor impede it in anyway and that includes not asking that needed changes be held constant for comparability sake. Finally, the research should be as non-intrusive as possible. With the amount of work and the limited resources assigned to these drug courts, imposing additional data gathering burdens is neither feasible nor appropriate.

Plan of Investigation:

Because of the complexity of the evaluation envisioned in the goals and the lack of any pre-existing uniform data reporting system, the evaluation design was developed to have two separate but sequentially interrelated components. For the first year of the project (Jan. - Dec. 2000) the emphasis was on analysis of drug court processes. Descriptive data were collected on program participants, the drug courts and the program services. Program goals were compared to actual implementation and courts were analyzed against the federal Ten Key Component standards. Participant files were analyzed to develop standard data on characteristics, court and team processes observed and interviews conducted with treatment team members, clients, treatment providers and some community leaders.

In the second year of the project (Jan. - Dec. 2001) an outcome evaluation was conducted focusing on characteristics and experiences of participants who had successfully completed and those who had been terminated from the drug program. Measures of criminal behavior, substance use, social responsibility, social integration and consumer satisfaction were gathered to compare and contrast these two groups, using the client characteristics gathered in year one as context. Structured interviews were conducted with a stratified sample (25.8%) of active participants, graduates and terminated individuals in each location throughout the state. In addition, interviews were conducted in four regional institutions with former participants who had been committed to the Department of Corrections. These data appear as both a separate section of the

year two report and are integrated into the commentary sections of the documents.

Complicating the plan of investigation throughout has been that Missouri drug courts are not fixed stable entities. When this research was originally being designed the adult courts were neatly divided into two types, pre and post plea jurisdictions. By the time project year one was ready to begin, not only had most courts incorporated both of these types of participants, many had begun to add reentry clients, juveniles, DWI and family components. While this complicates the research questions, it also highlights the dynamic nature of the drug court initiative in this state and the importance of this project for policy makers and funders.

All of the drug courts included in this study are of fairly recent vintage. The eldest of the fourteen began operations in May 1996. Another opened in October 1997 while seven first admitted clients during 1998. The newest additions did not begin operations until April of 1999. This has presented several challenges to the analysis process because most of these courts are still in their developmental stages and policy, procedures and even, to a certain extent, philosophy is evolving as experience is gained and new needs are uncovered and assessed. For instance, in the original evaluation proposal the ten adult felon courts were neatly divided between those that were pre-plea and those that admitted only post plea participants. By early fall 2000 when the data for the year one reports was finalized, eight of the adult courts were accepting both pre and post plea referrals. In addition, three of the adult courts now also have provisions for felon DWI clients and nine are accepting re-entry individuals, primarily from the 120-day prison program. In addition, three have added juvenile drug courts and one now extends the service to family court as well. Program size varies significantly depending on length of time in the court has been operation, population base served and types of participants accepted. The largest of these courts has admitted 232 clients, the smallest 15. The majority of the individuals admitted in all the courts save one were still in the program in mid 2000. The highest number of graduates reported in any of the fourteen courts was 79 and the greatest number terminated was 65. In eleven of the fourteen the number of graduates was greater than the number of terminations.

As the study progressed one of the original courts was dropped from analysis after the first year because it was undergoing such a fundamental reorganization in structure and philosophy that the data gathered in year one on processes and client characteristics had little validity under the new direction being taken. While this presented some problems for the research, the court is to be congratulated on facing some difficult choices so forthrightly and taking remedial action decisively to improve the quality of service to the clientele and public.

Contents of Reports:

The first compilation of process evaluation data were presented in five separate but interrelated sets of reports, three of which are available for general use and two of which are the property of the drug courts cooperating in this study. These reports are as follows:

1. Missouri Ten Key Components Analysis
2. Missouri Drug Court Client Profiles (adult, juvenile, family)
3. Composite Report of Interviews/Observations
4. County Drug Court Ten Key Component Analysis*
5. County Drug Court Client Profiles*

The reports for project year two draw upon those data and integrate them with the information developed during the second set of analyses. Included here are the following components:

1. Composite of Characteristics of Drug Court Participants by Status and Selected Comparative Analyses of Graduated and Terminated (adult, family and juvenile)
2. Comparative Arrest and Incarceration of Graduated and Terminated
3. Multi-Dimensional Determinants of Success
4. Themes and Implications from the Data
5. Suggestions for Analysis and Change
6. Attachment I - Data Gathering Instruments
7. Appendix I - Descriptive Data by Variable: All Adult Drug Court Participants
8. Appendix II - Descriptive Data by Variable: All Juvenile Drug Court Participants
9. County Drug Court Composite Characteristics by Status*

* reports property of the respective courts

The data in these two sets of reports are cumulative and should be seen as an integrated whole in assessing the picture of drug courts in Missouri at this time. In addition it should be noted that they do not represent an exhaustive analysis of all of the data gathered during this study. The richness of information available here provides numerous avenues for further inquiry and it is the intent of the research team to continue to pursue them in the immediate future. What has been targeted in these reports are the areas that the sponsors of the study and the Technical Advisory Committee have indicated will have the most present impact on issues of policy, practice and funding.

PARTICIPANT CHARACTERISTICS:

**Adult Courts
Family Court
Juvenile Courts**

Adult Participant Characteristics

PARTICIPANT CHARACTERISTICS

SELECTED RECORD DATA FROM ADULT DRUG COURT PARTICIPANTS

Introduction:

The following tables represent information drawn from the official records kept by members of the drug court teams and include information from court dockets, case manager dossiers, court administrator records and treatment provider files. Data were originally compiled on coded instruments that address one hundred and sixteen variables for each individual. The total number of adults assessed in this manner was **771**. The designation **Active** refers to individuals who began the drug court program prior to August 2000 and who remained in the program as of June 30, 2001. **Graduated** and **Terminated** are persons who have, in one manner or the other, ended participation as of 6/30/01. In the latter two categories there are 686 persons. In some instances the percentages do not reflect that total because of missing or non-applicability of the item to individuals.

The aggregate data set (without correlations) available on these participants runs to several hundred pages and is contained in two large appendices which are on file with Office of State Courts Administrator and the respective courts in the study. For the purposes of this report, only certain variables that the Technical Advisory Committee and the research staff felt were of greatest import in describing the program outcomes in these courts were chosen for inclusion. The entire data set is also available for further analysis through the School of Social Work, University of Missouri-Columbia and/or the Missouri Office of State Courts Administrator.

Tables:**Population Overview:****Participant Status by Race and Gender**

	Active %		Grad %		Term %		Total	% of Total
Afr.-American Female	6	20.7	7	24.1	16	55.2	29	3.8
Afr.-American Male	12	12.4	23	23.7	62	63.9	97	12.6
Caucasian Female	21	10.3	112	55.2	70	34.5	203	26.3
Caucasian Male	41	10.0	193	47.3	174	42.6	408	52.9
Other Female	1	33.3	1	33.3	1	33.3	3	.4
Other Male	1	5.9	7	41.2	9	52.9	17	2.2
Missing Data	3	21.4	3	21.4	8	57.1	14	1.8
Total	85	11.0	346	44.9	340	44.1	771	100.0

Data in this section of the report will focus primarily on the contrasts and comparisons between those who have graduated from drug courts and those who have been terminated by court action. However, this initial table also includes those who are active participants as of June 2001. The "other" category used throughout this report is a composite of all racial groups other than black and white. The numbers are very small and spread among persons of Hispanic, Native American and Asian descent. White females are most likely to successfully complete the program while black males have the highest termination rate.

Total Participants by Race

Total Afr.-American	126	16.3%
Total Caucasian	611	79.2%
Total Other	20	2.6%
Missing Data	14	1.8%
Total	771	99.9%

The total population in the counties served by the adult drug courts included in this study according to the 2000 Census is 1,742,283. The largest has 1,003,485

and the smallest 32,805. The racial composition of these jurisdictions is as follows: 84% Caucasian, 13% Black and 3% all other racial categories combined. Jurisdictions ranged from a high of 22% minority population to a low of 1.5%.

Population Outcome Contrast:

Graduated vs Terminated by Gender

	Grad		Term		Total
		%		%	
Female	121	57.3	90	42.7	211
Male	225	47.5	249	52.5	474
Missing	0		1		1
Total	346	50.4	340	49.6	686

The above table includes only women who were charged with felonies in adult criminal court. Female representation in this study is higher than the state felony rate because of family court data (reported separately) in which 95% of the participants are women. With the exception of the "other female" category where the numbers are too small to be meaningful, women are more successful than are men of the same race.

Graduated vs Terminated by Race

	Grad		Term		Total
		%		%	
Afr.-American	30	27.8	78	72.2	108
Caucasian	305	55.6	244	44.4	549
Other	8	44.4	10	55.5	10
Missing	3		8		11
Total	346	50.4	340	49.6	686

The overall graduation rate of participants is majorly impacted by race. Minorities, for a variety of reasons examined later in these documents, do not perform as well as whites in meeting the expectations of drug courts as currently implemented. This finding holds true even when controlling for gender. Because of this disparity in outcome, a number of the succeeding tables will use race as a variable for analysis.

Demographic Characteristics:

The following tables represent demographic variables which demonstrate the greatest amount of variance in outcome as measured by drug court graduation or involuntary termination from the program among and between the major population groups served.

Age - African-American Female

		Client Status		
		Graduated	Terminated	Total
Age	<22		2	2
	22-35	3	8	11
	35+	4	6	10
	Missing			
Total		7	16	23

Age - African-American Male

		Client Status		
		Graduated	Terminated	Total
Age	<22	2	28	30
	22-35	13	19	32
	35+	8	14	22
	Missing		1	1
Total		23	62	85

Age - Caucasian Female

		Client Status		
		Graduated	Terminated	Total
Age	<22	27	12	39
	22-35	55	29	84
	35+	30	29	59
	Missing			
Total		112	70	182

Age - Caucasian Male

		Client Status		
		Graduated	Terminated	Total
Age	<22	34	68	102
	22-35	91	67	158
	35+	66	39	105
	Missing	2		2
Total		193	174	367

Age - Other Male

		Client Status		
		Graduated	Terminated	Total
Age	<22	1	4	5
	22-35	3	5	8
	35+	1		1
	Missing	2		2
Total		7	9	16

With the notable exception of white women, younger adult persons do not fare as well as older people in these drug court programs. Excluding Caucasian females, the graduation rate for all other participants under twenty-two years of age is a meager 26%. Even though the numbers in this study are small, the graduation rate for younger African-American males is still an almost unbelievably low 6%.

Marital Status at Entry

			Client Status		
			Graduated	Terminated	Total
Marital Status	Married	Count	72	34	106
		%	67.9%	32.1%	100.0%
	Not Married	Count	266	297	563
		%	47.2%	52.8%	100.0%
	Missing		8	9	17
Total		Count	346	340	686

The appended printouts of raw data provide a more detailed picture of living arrangements of drug court participants and many different situations are found. The foregoing table is illustrative of the central element that emerges however and that is the concept of "stability." Where there is some regularity and consistency to the living pattern, the individual, regardless of race or gender, is more likely to graduate from the drug court program.

Support Network-Immediate Family

			Client Status		
			Graduated	Terminated	Total
Family Support at Entry	No/Little	Count	50	97	147
		%	34.0%	66.0%	100.0%
	Some/High	Count	246	205	451
		%	54.5%	45.5%	100.0%
	Missing		50	38	88
Total		Count	346	340	686

Most participants indicate that there was some level of familial support available for them at the time they began drug court and the greater the amount of that support, the more likely they were to complete the program. Those isolated from family and peers had significantly greater difficulty and were twice as likely to be terminated before reaching graduation.

Community Socio-Economic Status at Entry

			Client Status		Total
			Graduated	Terminated	
Community Status at Entry	Middle/Above	Count	142	80	29
		%			100.0%
	Lower Middle/Lower	Count	135	206	534
		%			100.0%
	Missing		69	54	123
Total		Count	346	340	686

Community socioeconomic status was a coder judgement based on a combination of income, housing, location, employment classification and educational attainment and is inherently subjective. However, the data here are quite consistent with the general felony population in Missouri. The overwhelming majority of the participants are in the lower middle and lower classes. Higher socioeconomic status may be a predictor of graduation but the numbers are so small that there is no statistically meaningful difference to be derived from this sample.

Employment Status at Entry - All

Employment Status at Entry		Client Status		Total
		Graduated	Terminated	
Total	Full-time	200	105	305
	Part-time	37	37	74
	Unemployed	98	180	278
	Missing	11	18	29
		335	340	686

Through this analysis, the importance of employment emerges repeatedly. Persons who had a history of full-time adequately paying employment prior to entering drug court are statistically nearly twice as likely to graduate as those who were unemployed or had only sporadic work. A history of full-time employment during the time in drug court is also predictive of successful completion of the program.

Diagnostic Elements:

The data in this section of the report demonstrate some of the pre-existing clinical issues that impact whether an individual will graduate from drug court and point to some of the assessment areas that need special emphasis in the assessment and intake phases of the process.

Physical Condition

			Client Status		Total
			Graduated	Terminated	
Physical Condition - Health Status	Adequate	Count	252	237	49
		%	51.5%	48.5%	100.0%
	Impaired	Count	61	73	134
		%	45.5%	54.5%	100.0%
	Missing		33	30	63
Total		Count	346	340	686

Although the health data do show a slight inclination in the direction of better physical condition on entry relating to higher graduation rates, these data are very incomplete and do not necessarily represent the true physical condition of those referred to the drug court programs. This table should be read in conjunction with the client interview data on this subject found later in this report.

Previous Treatment History

			Client Status		Total
			Graduated	Terminated	
Prior Drug/Alcohol Treatment	Yes	Count	170	207	377
		%	45.1%	54.9%	100.0%
	No	Count	137	108	245
		%	55.9%	44.1%	100.0%
	Missing		39	25	64
Total		Count	346	340	686

A commonly accepted truism in substance abuse treatment is that it takes multiple attempts at treatment for most people before sobriety is achieved. These data tend to contradict that assumption. Persons with prior treatment histories are less likely to graduate than those for whom this is the first experience. However, since a correlation has not yet been done on these data including other significant elements such as drug of choice, drawing any definitive conclusion should be avoided.

Dual Diagnosis

			Client Status		
			Graduated	Terminated	Total
Dual Diagnosis	No	Count	280	269	549
		%	51.0%	49.0%	100.0%
	Yes	Count	39	59	98
		%	39.8%	60.2%	100.0%
	Missing		27	12	39
Total		Count	346	340	686

Two elements need to be taken into account when examining the data in this table. First 28 cases were such that no determination could be made by the coders. Second, only situations in which there was external evidence of an official DSM-IV axis I or II diagnosis having been made by a qualified mental health professional were counted in the "yes" column, even when there was overwhelming evidence that such an assessment label was justified. And even with these limitations it is evident that co-occurring disorders do impact an individuals likelihood of graduation from drug court programs.

Domestic Abuse History

			Client Status		
			Graduated	Terminated	Total
Domestic Abuse History	Victim	Count	79	78	157
		%	50.3%	49.7%	100.0%
	Perpetrator	Count	15	20	35
		%	42.9%	57.1%	100.0%
	Both	Count	10	16	26
		%	38.5%	61.5%	100.0%
	None Reported	Count	209	202	411
		%	50.9%	49.1%	100.0%
	Missing		33	24	57
Total		Count	313	340	686

The domestic abuse data presented here are perhaps significant more for what is not evident than for what is. In only a few instances did the intake assessment specifically include examination of domestic abuse history. In several courts there was no mention of it in any file. Where it was a history component, background was usually limited to female program participants unless the male client volunteered information. The interview data reported later in this document tend to reinforce the conclusion that domestic abuse is under-reported in drug court client files.

Drug Use History:

Age at onset of first use leading to addiction and the drug primarily used by the individual are both predictive of performance in the drug court program. Because the latter is so significant, a detailed breakout by race and gender is provided as well as the composite data.

Age at Start of Alcohol Use-Alcohol History

			Client Status		Total
			Graduated	Terminated	
Age at Start of Alcohol Use - Alcohol History	Up to 12	Count	61	78	139
		%	43.9%	56.1%	100.0%
	13 - 17	Count	174	187	361
		%	48.2%	51.8%	100.0%
	18-21	Count	38	41	79
		%	48.1%	51.9%	100.0%
	22+	Count	2	5	7
		%	28.6%	71.4%	100.0%
	Missing		71	29	100
Total		Count	346	311	686
		%	46.9%	53.1%	100.0%

In general all user age categories, the earlier the start of alcohol use the greater the likelihood that the individual will not successfully complete the drug court program. However, for those over 22 years of age, the data are reversed. The differential age and graduation is particularly evident at the youngest and oldest age groupings. The mean age for first alcohol use is 14.2 years and the lowest end of the reported range was 5 years of age.

Age at Start of Drug Use

			Client Status		Total
			Graduated	Terminated	
Age at Start of Drug Use - Drug History	Up to 12	Count	31	65	96
		%	32.3%	67.7%	100.0%
	13 - 17	Count	192	182	374
		%	51.3%	48.7%	100.0%
	18-21	Count	53	43	96
		%	55.2%	44.8%	100.0%
	22- 30	Count	13	21	34
		%	38.2%	61.8	100.0%
	33	Count	6	4	10
		%	60.0%	40.0%	100.0%
	Missing		51	25	76
Total		Count	346	340	686

Data on age of first drug use are somewhat mixed for graduates and those terminated from the program. However, the feature noted above under alcohol use is still the dominant finding, namely that very early use is predictive of difficulty in completing the program. Although specific data on regularity of use were not available, the impressions from both file review and interviews were that early use led to a regular habit of abuse by mid-teens. The mean age of first use of drugs is 14.7 years, slightly higher than that for alcohol and in most instances (over 85%) there is a clear pattern of progression. As documented in other studies, first use was most frequently marijuana although over one-quarter of minority participants reported cocaine as their first drug experience.

Drug of Choice at Entry - All

			Client Status		
			Graduated	Terminated	Total
Drug of Choice at Entry	Alcohol	Count	83	63	146
		%	56.8%	43.2%	100.0%
	Marijuana	Count	124	103	227
		%	54.6%	45.4%	100.0%
	Cocaine	Count	34	85	119
		%	28.6%	71.4%	100.0%
	Stimulants	Count	45	51	96
		%	46.9%	53.1%	100.0%
	Other	Count	27	23	50
		%	54.0%	46.0%	100.0%
	Missing		33	15	48
Total		Count	346	340	686

These data report the drug that an individual who graduated or was terminated was primarily using at the time of their referral to the drug court. At least two variables should be taken into account in interpreting these results. First, 9.4% of the cases did not have this information available and these missing items could impact the conclusion. Second, poly-drug use was not regularly entered and so the results reflect the client self-reported use only. However, even with these caveats a picture of graduated vs. terminated individuals emerges. Alcohol and marijuana users are much more likely to succeed in this program than are persons with a cocaine addiction history. Stimulants (almost exclusively methamphetamine in this study) are likewise a high risk factor for completion.

The "other" category in this table includes various opiates, LSD, prescription medication (both personal and street), depressants and over the counter drugs. In the persons studied in these courts the numbers in each of these areas are small. There was no evidence of widespread use of the so-called designer drugs among the population served by these programs.

The first conclusion from this table is that drug courts can successfully serve individuals with every sort of addiction but that some drug usage is more

problematic than others. This becomes more evident in the succeeding tables where the various populations are examined.

Because of the high importance of these data, the following tables have been added to assist in depicting the demographics of drug use and the probability of graduation as the program is currently structured.

Drug of Choice at Entry - African-American Female

			Client Status		Total
			Graduated	Terminated	
Drug of Choice at Entry	Alcohol	Count		1	1
		%		100.0%	100.0%
	Marijuana	Count	1	2	3
		%	33.3%	66.7%	100.0%
	Cocaine	Count	4	12	16
		%	25.0%	75.0%	100.0%
	Stimulants	Count	1		1
		%	100.0%		100.0%
	Other	Count	1	1	2
		%	50.0%	50.0%	100.0%
	Missing				
Total		Count	7	16	23
		%	30.4%	69.6%	100.0%

As noted in the composite client tables earlier in this section, the number of black females who have completed the adult program is small and it is difficult to place confidence in statistics of this size. It does appear, however, that the pattern found among male users, particularly black males, where cocaine use is a prevalent drug of choice at entry results in a success rate that is significantly lower than for other drug use types.

Drug of Choice at Entry - African-American Male

			Client Status		Total
			Graduated	Terminated	
Drug of Choice at Entry	Alcohol	Count	6	9	15
		%	40.0%	60.0%	100.0%
	Marijuana	Count	9	26	35
		%	25.7%	74.3%	100.0%
	Cocaine	Count	5	26	31
		%	16.1%	83.9%	100.0%
	Missing	Count	3	1	4
		Count	23	62	85
		%	24.7%	75.3%	100.0%

Among black males, cocaine use at entry is clearly related to success within the program. Almost 84% of those using this drug when referred to drug court did

not graduate and while the overall rate of graduation is less than one-quarter of those admitted, the contrast between alcohol and cocaine use is startling. Another interesting element of racial difference that this table highlights is the non-use of stimulants, including methamphetamine by black males.

Drug of Choice at Entry - Caucasian Female

			Client Status		
			Graduated	Terminated	Total
Drug of Choice at Entry	Alcohol	Count	12	7	19
		%	63.2%	36.8	100.0%
	Marijuana	Count	45	13	58
		%	77.6%	22.4%	100.0%
	Cocaine	Count	10	20	30
		%	33.3%	66.7%	100.0%
	Stimulants	Count	21	15	36
		%	58.3%	41.7%	100.0%
	Heroin	Count		2	2
		%		100.0%	100.0%
	Other	Count	14	10	24
		%	75.0%	25.0%	100.0%
	Missing	Count	10	3	13
		Count	112	70	182
Total		%	60.4%	39.6%	100.0%

Among white women, the number of participants who have completed the program is of a sufficient size to allow confidence in the statistics that are generated. As anticipated and consistent with data from the other gender/race groups, alcohol and marijuana users have the highest completion rates for drug court and cocaine users the lowest. Among all the groups, white women had the highest alcohol and marijuana use as "drug of choice at entry" and also the highest graduation rate.

The "other race" category for female participants has only three entries and yields no useful information.

Drug of Choice at Entry - Caucasian Male

			Client Status		Total
			Graduated	Terminated	
Drug of Choice at Entry	Alcohol	Count	62	41	103
		%	60.2%	39.8%	100.0%
	Marijuana	Count	65	60	125
		%	52.0%	48.0%	100.0%
	Cocaine	Count	14	23	37
		%	37.8%	62.2%	100.0%
	Stimulants	Count	22	31	53
		%	41.5%	58.5%	100.0%
	Heroin	Count	1		1
		%	100.0%		100.0%
	Other	Count	10	9	19
		%	52.6%	47.4%	100.0%
	Missing	Count	20	10	30
Total		Count	193	174	367
		%	51.3%	48.7%	100.0%

Drug of choice findings for white men are consistent with the general picture that has emerged. Individuals referred on the basis of alcohol and marijuana use are far more likely to succeed in this program than those whose history includes use of other drugs, particularly cocaine. A notable element of this table is the methamphetamines use by white males and the relatively high termination rate for such individuals.

Drug of Choice at Entry - Other Male

			Client Status		Total
			Graduated	Terminated	
Drug of Choice at Entry	Alcohol	Count	3	3	6
		%	50.0%	50.0%	100.0%
	Marijuana	Count	3	2	5
		%	60.0%	40.0%	100.0%
	Cocaine	Count		3	3
		%		100.0%	100.0%
	Stimulants	Count	1	1	2
		%	50.0%	50.0%	100.0%
	Missing	Count			
Total		Count	7	9	16
		%	43.8%	56.3%	100.0%

The numbers in the "other racial groups" category for men are also so small that they are statistically meaningless. This table is included only to demonstrate that the evidence regarding cocaine use is pervasive and is the balancing factor between the overall success and termination rate, even with this small sample.

Criminal Justice History:

This section of the report presents data on the legal status, arrest history and compliance while in the drug court program. These tables reflect the changing character of Missouri drug courts as they expand to provide wider purviews of service to additional populations.

Legal Status

			Client Status		Total
			Graduated	Terminated	
Legal Status	Diversion	Count	174	124	298
		%	58.4%	41.6%	100.0%
	Post Plea	Count	146	141	287
		%	50.9%	49.1%	100.0%
	Re-Entry	Count	23	62	85
		%	27.1%	72.9%	100.0%
	Missing		3	13	
Total		Count	346	340	686

As was anticipated by the Technical Advisory Committee, the graduation rate for reentry clients is significantly below that of either the diversion or the post-plea categories. This may be attributable to persons on reentry status having greater severity of problems to begin with or it may, in part be attributable to the emerging practice of some criminal court judges to sentence offenders who have had some drug use history to 120 day confinement to be followed by assignment to drug court without these individuals having gone through the assessment and evaluation process that is the normally prescribed regimen prior to drug court admission.

Offense Resulting in Referral

			Client Status		Total
			Graduated	Terminated	
Current Offense	Drug Related	Count	246	197	443
		%	58.6%	41.4%	100.0%
	Non-Drug	Count	39	82	121
		%	32.2%	67.8%	100.0%
	Missing		61	61	122
Total		Count	346	340	686

The term "drug related" refers to the illegal use, acquisition, possession, manufacture and/or distribution of drugs, alcohol or drug paraphernalia. There is a substantial difference in drug court outcome depending on the offense that led to the arrest and the person's referral to the program. While drug related offenses

are in the vast majority (78.5%) of all cases, the graduation rates for persons entering with non-drug charges are substantially lower than those with drug related offenses. The most common non-drug offense at referral was burglary followed by other property crimes (forgery, stealing). Only rarely was the presenting offense a crime against person.

Violent Offense Arrests

		Client Status		
		Graduated	Terminated	Total
Other violent offense arrests (Number of total arrests)	Count	61	86	147
	%	41.5%	58.5%	100.0%

Although all of the drug courts in this study profess to adhere to the selection criterion that no one with any history of violent behavior can be admitted, among the 675 adults who had completed the program through either graduation or termination there were a total of 147 arrests for violent crimes. This number closely approximates the number of individuals with such crimes because there were very few instances in which an individual had multiple crimes against persons and was admitted to drug court. The vast majority of the crimes in this category were simple assault. No one with a Class A felony charge was admitted to any of the drug courts. The statistically significant difference between graduated and terminated persons is marginal.

Days Current Arrest to Entry

			Client Status		
			Graduated	Terminated	Total
Days to Entry	0 to 90	Count	113	99	212
		%	53.5%	46.5%	100.0%
	91 to 180	Count	97	61	158
		%	61.4%	38.6%	100.0%
	181 to 270	Count	33	40	73
		%	45.2%	54.8%	100.0%
	271 to 360	Count	24	24	48
		%	50.0%	50.0%	100.0%
	360 +	Count	45	68	113
		%	39.8%	48.4%	100.0%
	Missing		34	48	82
Total		Count	346	340	686

In the Process Evaluation of *Missouri Ten Key Components*, an area that was noted as non-complaint was the standard which suggests rapid processing from arrest to entry into drug court. The data for adult participants both reinforces that judgement and the validity of the national standard. The graduation rate for persons entering the program within 180 days of the current arrest is 56.8% and successful completion steadily declines from that point. As further time passes the rate falls below 40% for persons who have a year or more time gap between arrest for the drug offense and eventual entry into the drug court program.

Total Number of Positive Tests

			Client Status		Total
			Graduated	Terminated	
Total Number of Positives	0	Count	169	69	238
		%	71.0%	29.0%	100.0%
	1 to 5	Count	114	189	303
		%	37.6%	62.4%	100.0%
	More than 5	Count	25	42	67
		%	37.3%	62.7%	100.0%
	Missing		38	40	78
Total		Count	346	340	686

As would be anticipated, graduates have far fewer positive drug and/or alcohol test results than do those terminated from the programs. Several other items of note in this table are that a positive test is not necessary for termination to take place. While courts do not routinely keep statistics on the reasons for dismissal, other forms of non-compliance, particularly absconding, appear with regularity in the files. It is also consistent with the individualization philosophy that some persons graduate despite having had several relapses while in the treatment.

Family Participant Characteristics

PARTICIPANT CHARACTERISTICS

SELECTED RECORD DATA FROM FAMILY DRUG COURT PARTICIPANTS

Introduction:

The following tables represent information drawn from the official records kept by members of the drug court teams and include information from court dockets, case manager dossiers, court administrator records and treatment provider files. Data were originally compiled on coded instruments that address one hundred and sixteen variables for each individual. The total number of adults assessed in this manner was one hundred and forty-one. However, the number of responses varies greatly from variable to variable. In many instances the tables do not reflect that total because of missing or non-applicability of the item to individuals. It is important to know that when the number of respondents is low the sample may not be very representative of the population being considered. The total number of graduates in the evaluation population was forty-nine and the number of those terminated was eighty-one.

For the purposes of this report, only certain variables that the Technical Advisory Committee and the research staff felt were of greatest import in describing the program outcomes in these courts were chosen for inclusion. The entire data set is available for further analysis through the School of Social Work, University of Missouri-Columbia and/or the Missouri Office of State Courts Administrator.

Tables

Overview of the Study Sample:

Study Participant Status by Race and Gender

	Active %		Grad %		Term %		Total
Afr. American Female	6	9.38%	22	34.38%	36	56.25%	64
Afr. American Male	0	0.00%	2	40.00%	3	60.00%	5
Caucasian Female	5	9.09%	16	29.09%	34	61.82%	55
Caucasian Male			5	50.00%	5	50.00%	10
Other Female			3	60.00%	2	40.00%	5
Other Male			1	100.00%			1
Missing					1		1
Total	11	7.86%	49	35.00%	81	57.14%	141

Data in this section of the report will focus primarily on the contrasts and comparisons between those who have graduated from drug courts and those who have been terminated by court action. However, this initial table also includes those who are active participants as of June 2001. The "other" category used throughout this report is a composite of all racial groups other than black and white. The numbers are very small and spread among persons of Hispanic, Native American and Asian descent.

Total Participants by Race

Total Afr. American	69	49%
Total Caucasian	65	46%
Total Other	6	4%
Missing	1	<1%
Total	141	100%

Population Outcome Contrast:

Demographic Characteristics:

The following tables represent demographic variables that demonstrate the greatest amount of variance in outcome as measured by drug court graduation or involuntary termination from the program among and between the major population groups served.

Age – African American Female

		Client Status	
		Graduated	Terminated
Age	<22	3	6
	22-35	14	23
	35+	4	6
Missing		1	1
Total		22	36

Age – African American Male

		Client Status	
		Graduated	Terminated
Age	<22	0	0
	22-35	1	1
	35+	1	2
Missing		0	0
Total		2	3

Age - Caucasian Female

		Client Status	
		Graduated	Terminated
Age	<22	3	3
	22-35	10	26
	35+	2	3
Missing		1	2
Total		16	34

Age - Caucasian Male

		Client Status	
		Graduated	Terminated
Age	<22	1	
	22-35	3	3
	35+	1	2
Missing			
Total		5	5

Unlike in the adult courts included in this study, racial disparities do not exist in outcomes for Caucasians and African-Americans. The same proportion of both groups graduate and are terminated.

Marital Status at Entry

			Client Status	
			Graduated	Terminated
Marital Status	Ever Married	Count	11	18
	Not Married	Count	7	40
	Missing	Count	31	23

The appended printouts of raw data provide a more detailed picture of living arrangements of drug court participants and many different situations are found. The foregoing table is illustrative of the central element that emerges however and that is the concept of "stability."

Number of Biological Children at Entry

# of Children		Graduated	Terminated
0	Count		
1	Count	10	14
2	Count	14	21
3	Count	11	17
4	Count	5	12
5+	Count	5	16
Missing	Count	4	1
Total	Count	49	81

Number of Dependents at Entry

# of Dependents		Graduated	Terminated
0	Count	7	15
1	Count	10	21
2	Count	9	15
3	Count	6	11
4	Count	3	8
5+	Count	3	7
Missing	Count	11	4
Total	Count	49	81

For both graduated and terminated individuals, more people have biological children than have dependents. For some individuals some of their children are dependents and some are not.

Support Network-Immediate Family

			Client Status	
			Graduated	Terminated
Family Support at Entry	No/Little	Count	9	39
	Some/High	Count	9	18
	Missing	Count	31	24

The data indicates that there was very little familial support available to most participants at the time they began drug court.

Community Socio-Economic Status at Entry

			Client Status	
			Graduated	Terminated
Community Status at Entry	Middle/Above	Count	1	1
	Low middle/Low	Count	14	56
	Missing	Count	34	24

Community socioeconomic status was a coder judgement based on a combination of income, housing, location, employment classification and educational attainment and is inherently subjective. However, the data here are quite consistent with the general felony population in Missouri. The overwhelming majority of the participants are in the lower middle and lower classes.

Employment Status at Entry - All

			Client Status	
			Graduated	Terminated
Employment Status at Entry	Employed	Count	3	10
	Unemployed	Count	19	33
	Missing	Count	27	38

In the analysis of adult felony court participants the importance of employment emerged repeatedly. There was a positive relationship between full-time employment at the time of entry and graduation from the program. The data for family court participants indicates a different relationship, as a greater percentage of the graduates were unemployed at the time of entry. This may be due to differences in participant population, however the number of participants assessed is so small that it is dangerous to attempt to draw definitive conclusions from the data.

Diagnostic Elements:

The data in this section of the report demonstrate some of the pre-existing clinical issues that impact whether or not an individual will graduate from drug court and point to some of the assessment areas that need special emphasis in the assessment and intake phases of the process.

Previous Treatment History

			Client Status	
			Graduated	Terminated
Prior Drug/Alcohol Treatment	Yes	Count	11	21
	No	Count	8	11
	Missing	Count	30	49

A commonly accepted truism in substance abuse treatment is that it takes multiple attempts at treatment for most people before sobriety is achieved. However, because an analysis has not yet been done on these data including other significant elements such as drug of choice, drawing any definitive conclusion should be avoided.

Dual Diagnosis

			Client Status	
			Graduated	Terminated
Dual Diagnosis	Yes	Count	4	10
	No	Count	17	49
	Missing	Count	28	22

Two elements need to be taken into account when examining the data in this table. First most cases were such that the coders could make no determination. Second, only situations in which there was external evidence of an official DSM-IV axis I or II diagnosis having been made by a qualified mental health professional were counted in the "yes" column, even when there was overwhelming evidence that such an assessment label was justified.

Domestic Abuse History

			Client Status	
			Graduated	Terminated
Domestic Abuse History	Victim/Perp	Count	18	34
	None Reported	Count	12	31
	Missing	Count	19	16

The domestic abuse data presented here are perhaps significant more for what is not evident than for what is. In only a few instances did the intake assessment specifically include examination of domestic abuse history. Where it was a history component, background was usually limited to female program participants unless the male client volunteered information. The interview data reported later in this document tend to reinforce the conclusion that domestic abuse is under-reported in drug court client files.

Drug Use History:

Drug of Choice at Entry - All

			Client Status	
			Graduated	Terminated
Drug of Choice at Entry	Alcohol	Count	2	3
	Marijuana	Count	6	14
	Cocaine	Count	12	24
	Stimulants	Count	2	2
	Other	Count		3
	Missing	Count	27	35

These data report the drug that an individual who graduated or was terminated was primarily using at the time of their referral to the drug court. At least two variables should be taken into account in interpreting these results. Many of the data are missing and poly-drug use was not regularly entered and so the results reflect the client self-reported use only. The "other " category in this table includes various opiates, LSD, prescription medication (both personal and street), depressants and over the counter drugs. In the persons studied in these courts the numbers in each of these areas are small. There was no evidence of widespread use of the so-called designer drugs among the population served by these programs.

The first conclusion from this table is that drug courts can successfully serve individuals with every sort of addiction but that some drug usage is more problematic than others.

This section of the report presents data on compliance while in the drug court program.

Total Number of Positive Tests

			Client Status	
			Graduated	Terminated
Total Number of Positives	0	Count		
	1 to 5	Count	27	28
	More than 5	Count	8	32
	Missing	Count	14	21

As would be anticipated, graduates have fewer positive drug and/or alcohol test results than do those terminated from the programs. Many fewer graduates had more than five positive screens. Drug use during participation apparently does not stand alone as a factor in termination decisions, as both individuals who graduated and persons who were terminated had multiple positives. While courts do not routinely keep statistics on the reasons for dismissal, other forms of non-compliance, particularly absconding, appear with regularity in the files. It is also consistent with the individualization philosophy that some persons graduate despite having had several relapses while in the treatment.

Program Indicators

Number of Days in Program

		Client Status	
		Graduated	Terminated
1 year or less	count	11	30
	valid %	22.4%	40.5%
1 – 1.5 years	count	16	25
	valid %	32.7%	33.8%
1.5-2 years	count	18	16
	valid %	36.7%	21.6%
2+ years	count	4	3
	valid %	8.2%	4.1%
Missing	count		7

The largest proportion (36.7%) of graduated individuals completed the program in one and a half to two years. Most individuals who did not complete the program were terminated in less than one year although a quarter of the individuals in this category were in the program for over one and a half years.

Criminal Justice History

Legal status is not as applicable to the family drug court as it is to the adult felony court and is therefore not reported here.

Prior Arrest History

Number of individuals with at least one arrest	Graduated	Terminated
Drug possession	1	8
Missing	35	59
Other Drug offense	4	6
Missing	34	61
Other non-Violent		12
Missing	35	60
Other Violent		4
Missing	35	61

The data sets on arrest history are not very complete. Not enough data is available to draw any inferences.

Juvenile Participant Characteristics

PARTICIPANT CHARACTERISTIC

SELECTED RECORD DATA FROM JUVENILE DRUG COURT PARTICIPANTS

Introduction:

The following tables present data drawn from the official records of the two juvenile drug courts, which were included in the final version of this study. The courts represent the polar extremes of juvenile courts from a multi-county rural jurisdiction where many of the elements of traditional society are still evident to a large metropolitan circuit, which encompasses both a heavily minority-populated inner city and white suburbia. Clearly some of the distinctive characteristics of each area are lost in this composite picture but the data are, never-the-less representative of the range that falls within juvenile court jurisdiction and, in addition, are more notable for their similarities than their differences.

The most striking finding in analysis of the juveniles' characteristics is how similar the graduates and those terminated are on most items. While the adult data presented earlier in this report demonstrate distinctive profiles for those who succeed and those who do not, these same data sets discriminate far less precisely for adolescents. In addition, because the number of participants reported on is far smaller (106), some of the cells are so small that attempting to draw conclusions about them is hazardous. With these caveats in mind, the following comparative analysis is offered.

Tables:

Population Overview:

Participant Status by Race and Gender

	Active %		Grad %		Term %		Total	% of Total
Afri. American Female	1	16.7	1	16.7	4	66.7	6	5.7
Afri. American Male	3	8.8	20	58.8	11	32.4	34	32.1
Caucasian Female	2	25.0	3	37.5	3	37.5	8	7.5
Caucasian Male	4	9.3	20	46.5	19	44.2	43	40.6
Other Female					1	100.0	1	.9
Other Male	1	16.7	2	33.3	3	50.0	6	5.7
Missing Data	5				3		8	7.5
Total	16	11.3	46	46.9	44	41.8	106	100.0

This table provides an overall picture of the population from these two courts as of June 2001. As in the other sections, the "other" category is a composite of all racial groups other than black and white. In the case of the juvenile it is, with one exception, all Hispanic. The "active" category does not include any admissions after July 2000 but includes only those teens that were already in the study population as of that date and who have continued in the program for another year without either graduating or being terminated. For analysis the total sample upon which there is accurate data is 98 cases of which 87 have completed the drug court program either by graduation or court-ordered termination. The following tables will concentrate on comparison and contrast of the two latter groups.

Total Participants by Race

Total African American	41	38.7%
Total Caucasian	51	48.1%
Total Other	7	6.6%
Missing Data	7	6.6%
Total	106	100.0%

The total juvenile population according to the 2000 Census in these jurisdictions that falls within the intake age limits of the drug courts (13 -17) is 82,282 of which 71.2% are white, 22.6% are black and 6.2% are all other racial categories combined. By county minority population ranges from 29.9% to 12.3%. The disparity in numbers and proportion by race that was evident with the adult population is not evident in the juvenile courts. Whether this reflects a more aggressive approach to bringing minorities into the program or is simply reflective of the juvenile court population in these areas is not known. However, it does appear from the process data that a conscious effort has been made by these administrators to aggressively market within their own courts and to extend drug court services to minority youth.

Graduated vs Terminated by Gender

	Grad	%	Term	%	Total
Female	4	30.8	9	69.2	13
Male	42	55.3	34	44.7	76
Missing Data			1		1
Total	46	51.1	44	48.9	90

In the gender analysis of adults, women, particularly white women had a significantly higher graduation rate than did men. With juveniles that trend is totally reversed. Young women, even though the numbers are small, have a much higher termination rate than do young men of all races. Overall, the graduation rate for juveniles is slightly higher than that of adults when all groups are combined.

Graduated vs. Terminated by Race

	Grad	%	Term	%	Total
African American	21	56.8	16	43.2	37
Caucasian	23	51.1	22	49.9	45
Other	2	33.3	4	66.7	6
Missing Data			2		
Total	46	51.1	44	48.9	90

The single most obvious statistic arising out of the analysis of the adult drug court data was the disparity in graduation rates between whites and blacks. For juveniles the picture is quite different. The successful completion rate for black adolescent males is 58.8%, well above that for any other group including black young women who, although their number is very small in this sample, significantly impact the termination rate. In part the success rate of black men may be directly attributable to the success that one court has had in attracting minority therapists to work with its population.

Demographic Characteristics:

The following tables represent demographic variables, which demonstrate the greatest amount of variance in outcome as measured by drug court graduation or involuntary termination from the program among and between the major population groups.

Age

		Client Status		Total
		Graduated	Terminated	
Age	13	4	1	5
	14	2	3	5
	15	8	9	17
	16	19	22	41
	17	9	9	18
	18	2		2
	19	2		2
	Missing Data			
Total		46	44	90

Age for juveniles follows an almost exact Bell curve with 16 as its apogee. This holds true for both those who successfully complete the program and those who are terminated and is generally consistent with the other groups of adjudicated delinquents under these courts' jurisdictions. A critical difference between adult and juvenile drug courts is the role that age plays. The upper age to which jurisdiction pertains is limited both by statute and practice and "aging out" of a program becomes an issue for both participant selection and retention. In one of these jurisdictions, the judge has been particularly lenient with the age limits in an attempt to assist individuals who were making progress. This accounts for the 19-year-old graduates.

Support Network-Immediate Family

			Client Status		Total
			Graduated	Terminated	
Family Support at Entry	No/Little	Count	9	13	22
		%	40.9	59.1	100.0
	Some/High	Count	33	29	62
		%	53.2	46.8	100.0
	Missing Data	Count	4	2	6
		Count	46	44	90

As one would anticipate, over 80% of these youth live with parent(s) and another 7.2% in multi-generation situations. And yet the records indicate a significant percentage (28.9%) of them report that their family was not a support network at the time they entered drug court and 41.1% rated the amount of immediate family support as "low." Extended family was even less of a factor despite environments that are often thought of as fostering this kind of support. Eighty-two point eight percent of these adolescents rated the peer support available to them as low and the rest were in the moderate range.

Community Socio-Economic Status at Entry

			Client Status		Total
			Graduated	Terminated	
Community Status at Entry	Middle/Above	Count	11	12	23
		%	50.8	49.2	100.0
	Lower Middle/Lower	Count	32	28	60
		%	53.3	46.7	100.0
	Missing Data	Count	3	4	7
		Count	46	44	90

Community socioeconomic status was a coder judgement based on a combination of family income, housing, location, parental employment classification and parental/guardian community status and is quite subjective. In contrast with the adult data, more juveniles fall into the middle and above classes (27.7%) but where such a division among adults seems to be predictive of outcome, no such conclusion can be drawn from the juvenile data. In fact, it is remarkable that the divisions are almost identical for the comparison cells.

Intellectual Functioning

			Client Status		
			Graduated	Terminated	Total
Intelligence	Average or Above	Count	37	30	67
		%	55.2	44.8	100.0
	Below Average	Count	6	11	17
		%	35.3	64.7	100.0
	Missing Data	Count	3	3	6
Total		Count	46	44	90

Although there is some bias that juvenile delinquents as a group and those using drugs in particular have a lower intelligence level than the total adolescent population, these data contradict that assumption. Only 20% were below average and among that group, termination rates were considerably higher. Years of school completed for this group was appropriate to the age with 40% having finished the ninth grade, a figure almost identical to the percent that were sixteen.

Diagnostic Elements:

The data in this section of the report illustrate some of the pre-existing clinical issues that impact or are hypothesized to impact on whether an individual will graduate or not from drug court. They relate to some of the diagnostic areas that may need special emphasis in the assessment and intake phases of the process.

Physical Condition

			Client Status		
			Graduated	Terminated	Total
Physical Condition - Health Status	Adequate	Count	41	39	80
		%	51.2	49.8	100.0
	Impaired	Count	3	3	6
		%	50.0	50.0	100.0
	Missing Data	Count	2	2	4
Total		Count	46	44	90

File data indicate a remarkably healthy population, in fact, healthier than general adolescents. The sparse interview data show a somewhat different picture and leads to a suspicion that if thorough health screening were a regularized component of intake, the data in this table might well be considerably different.

Previous Treatment History

			Client Status		
			Graduated	Terminated	Total
Prior Drug/Alcohol Treatment	Yes	Count	8	18	26
		%	30.8	69.2	100.0
	No	Count	32	21	53
		%	60.9	39.6	100.0
	Missing Data	Count	6	5	11
Total		Count	46	44	90

Almost one-third (32.9% of valid responses) of these teens had had prior professional help of some kind to deal with their alcohol/drug addiction. Although this is lower than the over 60% of adults who had had treatment prior to drug court, it is still a remarkable number for a population this young. In light of the paucity of addiction treatment services for this population in these areas, the figure is even more remarkable.

Dual Diagnosis

			Client Status		
			Graduated	Terminated	Total
Dual Diagnosis	Yes	Count	11	11	22
		%	50.0	50.0	100.0
	No	Count	31	30	61
		%	50.8	49.2	100.0
	Missing Data	Count	4	3	7
Total		Count	46	44	90

The number of participants with dual diagnoses does not correspond to the number reported above as having had prior treatment. There are several reasons to account for the disparity. The addiction may not have, in the mind of the therapist, risen to a level that would warrant a DSM-IV label. The approach taken may not consider mental functioning problems or the practitioner may not have been qualified to make such a diagnosis. The 26.5% figure is generally low by national standards and falls under the level that intake studies have found for affective disorders only with this population in other jurisdictions.

Domestic Abuse History

			Client Status		
			Graduated	Terminated	Total
Domestic Abuse History	Victim	Count	3	9	11
		%	27.3	72.7	100.0
	Perpetrator	Count		1	1
		%		100.0	100.0
	Both	Count		1	1
		%		100.0	100.0
	None Reported	Count	41	32	73
		%	56.1	43.9	100.0
	Missing Data	Count	2	2	4
Total		Count	46	44	90

The overwhelming majority of these youth do not have any indications of familial abuse in their records. Only 6.2% of the graduates' records report abuse while 19% of those terminated have evidence of this trauma. If the numbers were larger and this trend holds true, there are obvious implications for a variety of human service entities, not just juvenile drug courts. As with the adult data, there is considerable inconsistency in the assessment process and the degree to which an abuse history may or may not have been taken. The indications here are that it merits closer attention.

Drug Use History:

Although this population does not have the lengthy history of drug use to analyze, the same categories of assessment (age at onset and substance of choice) remain as core consideration in assessing differential outcomes for this total group and its various sub-sets.

Age at Start of Alcohol Use-Alcohol History

		Client Status		
		Graduated	Terminated	Total
Age	Up to 12		3	3
	12	1	2	3
	13	7	7	14
	14	9	3	12
	15	9	3	12
	16	2	1	3
	17			
	Missing Data	18	25	43
Total		46	44	90

Consistent with the data from adult court, the earlier the individual began using alcohol, the less likely that person was to graduate from drug court. Sixty-three percent of those who failed had begun their alcohol use by age 13 in contrast with 28.6% of graduates who had begun imbibing that early. The majority of both groups had begun using alcohol at least two years before their entry into the drug court program.

Age at Start of Drug Use

		Client Status		
		Graduated	Terminated	Total
Age	Up to 12	2	3	5
	12	1	2	3
	13	9	11	20
	14	5	9	14
	15	10	2	12
	16	3		3
	17			
	Missing Data	16	17	33
Total		46	44	57

As was the case above with alcohol use, the earlier the drug use onset, the greater the risk the individual has of not successfully completing the drug court program. Drug use by age 13 is common in this population with half of the teens having started by that time. These drug courts are not generally admitting the youth who has had only an initial experimental use of a drug but persons for whom usage has been a pattern over a relatively large part of their lives. These data coupled with that from interviews indicate that these participants have been using drugs on a regular and sustained basis for over two years on average by the time they enter the program.

Drug of Choice at Entry - All Juveniles

			Client Status		
			Graduated	Terminated	Total
Drug of Choice at Entry	Alcohol	Count	2	1	3
		%	66.7	33.3	100.0
	Marijuana	Count	35	30	65
		%	53.8	46.2	100.0
	Cocaine	Count		3	3
		%		100.0	100.0
	Stimulants	Count	1		1
		%	100.0		100.0
	Other	Count	2	2	4
		%	50.0	50.0	100.0
	Missing Data	Count	6	8	14
Total		Count	46	44	90

Marijuana is the overwhelming drug of choice of these adolescents. In both of these jurisdictions it is cheap and plentiful. Only very occasionally does another substance appear in the records. Cocaine use, which was so evident among adult black males, here is minimal and only among white girls. Even though the numbers are exceedingly small, the pattern of failure for users of this drug remains constant. In the "other" drug category were instances of PCP and LSD use. There were no reports of oxycontin or ecstasy use.

Juvenile Justice History:

This section of the report presents data on arrest history and compliance with the drug court program as measured by prescribed testing for use. No table on "Legal Status" has been included since over 98% of the cases are coded as "post-plea." Both of these jurisdictions normally require that a petition be sustained and an order of adjudication entered before an individual may be considered for drug court. This raises some question in the public defender community which would like to see juvenile drug court used as a diversion program without petition filing. These data, however, show that over 90% of the youth admitted to this program are not entering on a new/first petition but are already under court jurisdiction and drug court is being employed as an intensive intervention after other approaches have been tried unsuccessfully.

Offense Resulting in Referral

			Client Status		Total
			Graduated	Terminated	
Current Offense	Drug Related	Count	26	18	44
		%	59.1	40.9	100.0
	Non-Drug	Count	10	15	25
		%	40.0	60.0	100.0
	Missing Data	Count	10	11	21
		%			
Total		Count	46	44	90

Over sixty percent of the offenses resulting in drug court referral are listed as drug related. Drug related offenses include the illegal use, acquisition, possession, manufacture and/or distribution of drugs, alcohol or drug paraphernalia. Property related offenses such as auto tampering and burglary are the next most frequently referring offenses. However, in juvenile court it is not always the case that the offense resulting in referral to drug court is the same as the behavior that which led to the youth coming to official attention.

Frequently the drug usage is discovered as an investigation of other behaviors such as property crimes, or status offenses is being conducted by the juvenile office. Referral to drug court for drug use while under supervision is another common occurrence and these referrals are also included in this table as "drug related" offenses. It was the general practice of the juvenile drug courts to file pleadings either to modify the original court disposition or to transfer the case to drug court, which included these "drug related" offenses.

Violent Offense Arrests

		Client Status		Total
		Graduated	Terminated	
Other violent offense arrests (Number Arrested)	Count	11	20	31
	%	35.5	64.5	100.0
	Missing Data	10	9	19

Although all of the juvenile drug courts in this study, just like the adult courts, profess to adhere to the selection criterion that no one with any history of violent behavior can be admitted to the program, among the 87 juveniles who had completed drug court through either graduation or termination there were 31 arrests for crimes against persons recorded. The majority of these offenses were simple assaults. Since there were very few instances in which an individual was admitted if the record showed more than one such arrest, this number is fairly indicative of the percentage (c. 35%) of graduates and terminated youth who had such instances in their background. The differences between graduates and terminated youth is statistically significant on this variable with 69.4% of the "success" cases having no history of violence vs 34.1% for those who had such a record.

Total Number of Positives

			Client Status		Total
			Graduated	Terminated	
Total Number of Positives	0	Count	14	5	19
		%	73.7	26.3	100.0
	1 to 5	Count	23	28	51
		%	45.1	54.9	100.0
	More than 5	Count	5	10	15
		%	33.3	66.7	100.0
	Missing	Count	4	1	5
		%			
Total		Count	46	44	90

The number of positive tests for drug use while under supervision is in the direction that could be anticipated with the graduates having proportionately fewer positive reports than those who were terminated. It is notable, however, that the majority of graduates had at least one positive drug test during their time under supervision indicating that the courts provided some tolerance and extended additional opportunities to these youth.

ARREST AND INCARCERATION:

Graduates vs Terminated

Arrest and Incarceration Summary Report

I. Methodology and Data Sources

A. Highway Patrol Data

1. The Missouri State Highway Patrol (MSHP) database was identified as the primary source for arrest data for drug court graduation and termination cases.
2. The MSHP provided individual data forms for each case that included the following:
 - a. Control (ID) number
 - b. Drug court start date
 - c. Arrest date (requested only arrests occurring after drug court start date)
 - d. Offense type (Felony/Misd, Drug/Non-drug)
 - e. Conviction date
 - f. Admission (to Department of Corrections-DOC) date
 - g. Sentence
 - h. Release (from DOC) date
 - i. Probation
3. The MSHP reported arrests based on the following criteria:
 - a. Only open records were reported. Open records included:
 1. Arrest records for 30 days following arrest unless charges are not sought
 2. Arrest record for which charges have been filed
 3. Court disposition of guilt
 4. Suspended imposition of sentence during probation period
 - b. Open record criminal histories were reviewed relative to an individual's entry into drug court. Only criminal histories following entry date were provided and prior criminal history was not noted.
 - c. Criminal histories of persons in the provided database were reviewed only if they had a complete "hit" meeting all match requirements (Name, SSN, Date of Birth) or "potential hit" with two of three match requirements. Those "potential hits" with only one of three match requirements were not noted.
 - d. Persons with no hits do not necessarily have a criminal history after drug court entry. Individuals not fingerprinted at time of arrest or with unknown dispositions would not result in criminal record hits. In addition, persons arrested and convicted under alias identifiers may not result in a criminal history hit.

4. A summary report was prepared based on a sample from each court of the arrest information provided by the MSHP. The summary report was provided to each court with a sampling from their jurisdiction and an explanation of assumptions used to interpret whether arrest information related to a new arrest or to the arrest for which an individual was placed in drug court. Each court was asked to review the data, and provide feedback as to the accuracy of the data and the assumptions used to interpret the data. The information received from the local courts indicated significant deficiencies in MSHP data.
5. The data discrepancies and individual case questions were reviewed with the MSHP. It was determined that the data deficiencies likely resulted from a variety of factors, including but not limited to the following:
 - a. Discrepancies as a result of the criteria used by the MSHP in determining what arrest information to release (closed records were not included in the data provided thus arrests with no charges filed, nolle processed, dismissed, found not guilty, or completed SIS would not be included in the MSHP data report). Local courts often were aware of these arrests and did report them.
 - b. Discrepancies as a result of an inability to clearly identify individuals based on the identifying information provided to the MSHP (errors in name, SSN or DOB information submitted) resulting in a failure to obtain a “hit” or “potential hit” with two of three matching identifiers.
 - c. Discrepancies as a result of failure by local jurisdictions to report arrest information in a timely and complete manner (failure to fingerprint or forward fingerprint cards would be an example of a reason an arrest would not be in the MSHP data report);
 - d. Discrepancies as a result of failure by the DOC to report or failure by the MSHP to enter admission and release information in a timely and complete manner.
6. The decision was made to identify additional data sources to clarify discrepancies identified by local court review and to enhance overall data quality.

B. Department of Corrections Data

1. The Department of Corrections (DOC) provided a report identifying drug court participants currently incarcerated or under DOC supervision. The report included the following information for each individual:

- a. DOC identifier
 - b. Name, DOB and SSN
 - c. Current prison and housing unit
 - d. Supervision district
 - e. If parole hearing, release date and type
 - f. Maximum sentence
 - g. If no parole hearing, mandatory release date
2. The information from the DOC was compared to admission and release dates and conviction information provided on the MSHP data forms and arrest and days served data were updated.

C. CASENET

1. CASENET is an on-line case information system accessible from the Office of State Courts Administrator's Website. For those courts with records available on CASENET, it was possible to review individual cases to resolve remaining inconsistencies. Three courts were available on-line and these courts which are identified below, accounted of over 60% of the cases being reviewed for new arrests.
 - a. Boone County
 - b. Buchanan County
 - c. Cole County

D. Probation and Parole and OP2 System

1. Questions were identified for cases with apparent inconsistencies still unresolved following the review of the data sources identified above. Graduate research assistants contacted Probation and Parole representatives for identified courts and requested that the officers check data to resolve remaining discrepancies.
2. Contact was made with the Probation and Parole office in Columbia, and probation officers assisted with a final review of OP2 information on cases with outstanding inconsistencies.

As identified throughout the methodology and data source section, the collection of new arrest data revealed a number of deficiencies in the State's data systems. The data sources often revealed conflicting or incomplete information and it was apparent that the reporting of information by one agency to another did not occur as consistently or reliably as intended or required. Given recent events, which magnify the importance of reliable criminal history information, it seems more critical than ever that resources be allocated to improve reporting and recording processes and systems.

II. Data Analysis

A. Data Decisions, Entry and Revision

1. A number of data issues were apparent during the development of the data analysis instrument. It was decided that all information regarding arrests and incarceration provided by the MSHP would be recorded unless it could be clearly determined that the information was related to an arrest or incarceration that occurred prior to an individual's participation in drug court. In many cases information had been received for arrests that actually occurred prior to an individual's participation in drug court. This occurred for a variety of reasons including but not limited to the following:
 - a. The arrest occurred before the start date, but the conviction occurred after the start date. If the conviction date was after the drug court start date, arrest information may have been included on the MSHP data form.
 - b. An individual's probation may have been revoked after the start of drug court for an offense that occurred prior to participation in drug court. If the revocation date was after the start date, the arrest information may have been included on the MSHP data form.
 - c. An individual may have been incarcerated after the start of drug court for an offense that occurred prior to drug court (in many termination cases the incarceration may have been for the drug court offense itself). If the incarceration occurred after the start date, the arrest information may have been included on the MSHP data form.
 - d. In a number of cases, no arrest date was available, only conviction or DOC admission or release dates were reported on the MSHP data form.
2. After the data was entered, data fields were compared to determine whether the arrest and time served information were related to a new arrest or to the arrest that actually resulted in placement in drug court.
3. The following data elements for all who graduated or were terminated from the adult felony drug courts were identified for analysis:
 - a. The number of new arrests
 - b. The number of individuals arrested by outcome (graduated/terminated).
 - c. The type of new arrests (Felony/Misdemeanor, Drug/Non-drug).

- d. The number of days of incarceration following the start of drug court through October 1, 2001.
 - e. The number of days of incarceration to be served, if individuals currently incarcerated remained institutionalized until their mandatory release date.
 - f. Whether incarceration days were served pursuant to sentencing on a new arrest, the drug court arrest or concurrently.
4. In interpreting the arrest data findings it is important to know how arrests and cases were defined and reported. The following definitions apply:
- a. A new arrest was defined as an arrest which occurred subsequent to an individual's entry into drug court.
 - b. The number of new arrests counted incidents of arrest as opposed to individuals arrested. A single individual may have been arrested on multiple occasions subsequent to their entry into drug court.
 - c. The number of individuals arrested by outcome (graduated/terminated) counts the actual number of individuals arrested from each category and does not account for multiple arrests by a single individual.
 - d. A drug court case is identified by an identifiable period of participation in the drug court. It is noted that a single individual could be represented more than once in the number of cases (an example of such a case is provided below).
 - e. Days served include days served in DOC facilities and where identifiable, in county facilities. The days served were classified according to the offense for which they were served (days served on drug court offense, days served on new arrest and days served on new arrest concurrent with drug court offense). If the days were served subsequent to an individual's entry into drug court the days were counted (days that were served at a county facility, as a sanction during drug court, were not included).
 - f. The following scenario is provided to illustrate the operational definitions identified above:
 - John Doe entered the drug court on diversion status on January 2, 1999, and was terminated on February 4, 1999.
 - He was later readmitted on August 5, 1999, after serving 120 days (Under Section 595) on a conviction for his drug court offense. He was terminated December 3, 1999.
 - On February 3, 2000, John was arrested on a new offense.
 - On June 13, 2000, John's probation was revoked on the original drug court sentence (5 years).

- On June 13, 2000 he was convicted on the new arrest and sentenced to 5 years DOC (to run concurrent with the sentence on his drug court conviction).
- John entered DOC on June 15, 2000 and continues to be incarcerated at the time incarceration records were assessed (10/1/01).

In this scenario data would be recorded as follows:

- John Doe would have been assigned two case numbers because both admissions occurred during the period under review.
- The new arrest would be counted only once, but referenced on the subsequent case number.
- The 120 days served between cases would be assessed only to the first case as they occurred prior to entry in the second drug court case.
- John was sentenced on the new arrest and also required to complete the original sentence that was imposed on the drug court offense for which he previously served only 120 days. The 466 subsequent days (6/15/00-10/01/01) would be reported both as days on drug court offense and days served on new arrest concurrent with drug court offense, but would not be duplicated in total days served.
- The maximum time John could serve would be determined by the mandatory release date provided by the DOC. This additional time would be calculated and included in the data findings below in Section III (J) Number of Days based on Mandatory Release Dates.

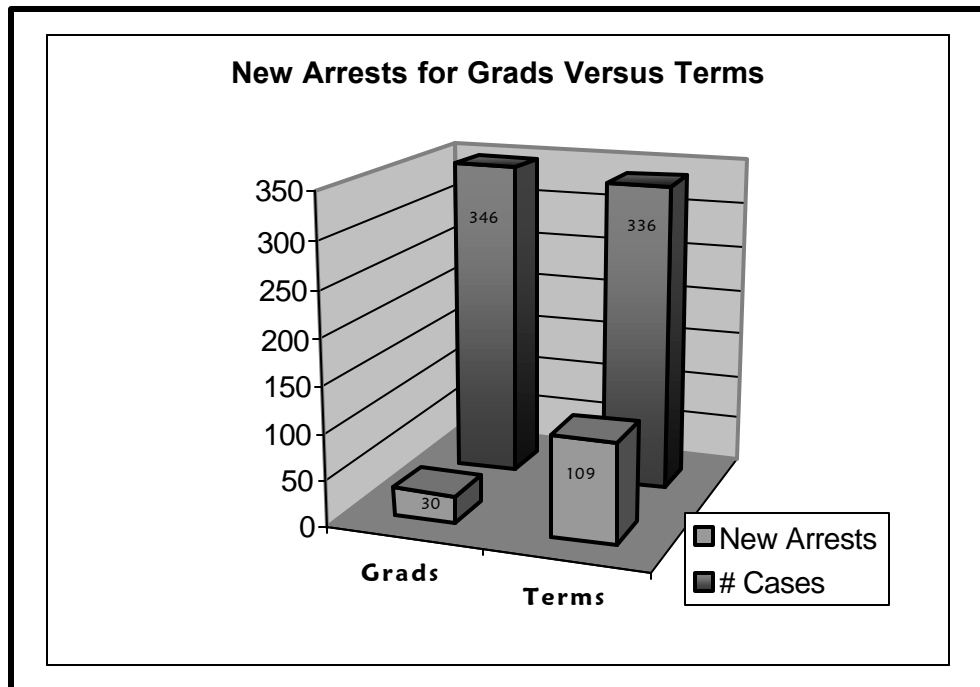
III. Data Findings

A. Incidents of New Arrests for Graduated and Terminated Participants

Data findings concerning arrest and incarceration are presented in a variety of ways. The primary focus of comparison is between those who graduated and those who were terminated from drug court. The total number of graduation cases evaluated was 346. The total number of termination cases was 336. This allows for relative ease in comparison, as the total number of cases is similar. Only the ten adult felony drug courts were included.

The arrest information was considered from two perspectives. In the first evaluation, the number of arrests for each group (Graduated and Terminated) were counted and compared to the number in the group (30 arrests for Grads compared to 346 Grads). The following graph (Figure A) shows the total number of new arrests for graduation and termination cases compared to the total number of cases in each category. As can be seen from Figure A, the number of new arrests was significantly higher among those who were terminated than among those who graduated.

Figure A



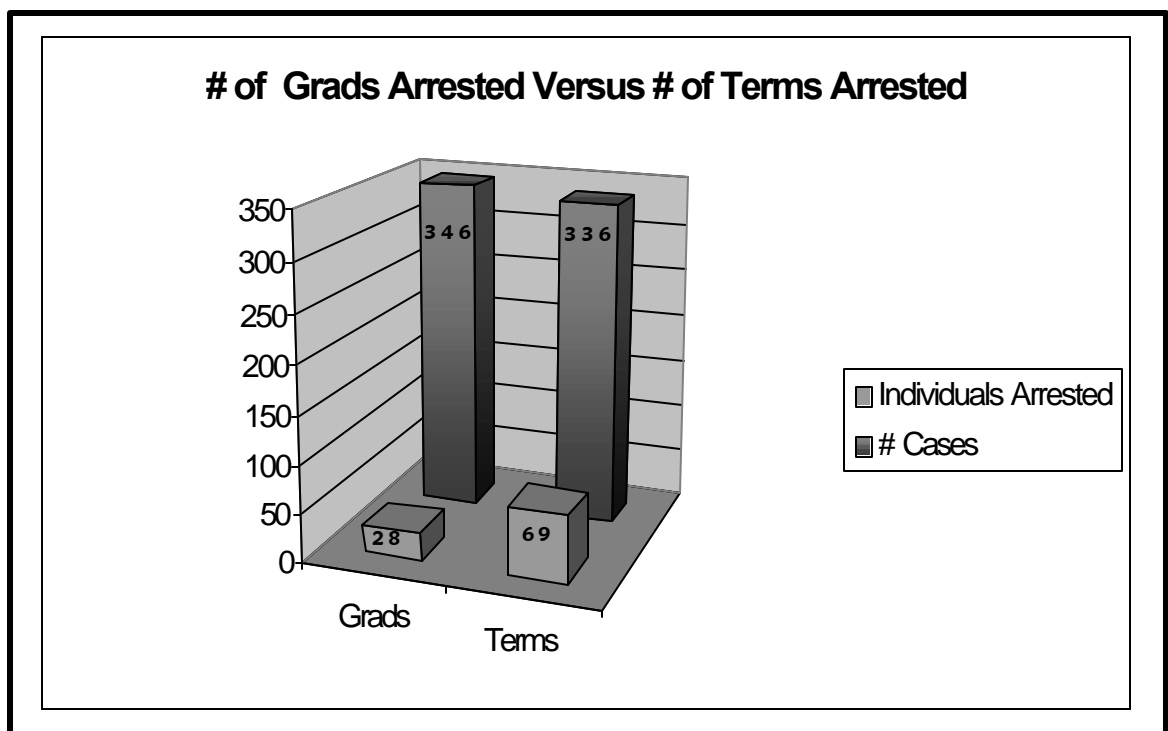
When the number of arrests is divided by the number of individuals in the group (for example, 30 new arrests/346 Graduates) the arrest rate for that group is determined. New arrests for graduates occurred at a rate of 8.7%, compared to a rate of 32.4 % for those terminated. Graduates accounted for only 22% of new arrests. Terminated cases accounted for the remaining 78%.

B. Number of Individuals with New Arrests by Program Outcome

The second way that the new arrest data was interpreted was by the number of individuals who graduated or were terminated who had new arrests. It was noted in the individual court analysis that counting arrests tended on occasion to skew data, particularly in smaller courts. For example, one individual with eight new arrests in one court contributed to a total of eighteen new arrests for those terminated in that court. Since there were only eighteen individuals terminated in the court, the data indicated a rate of new arrests to terminated cases of 100 %.

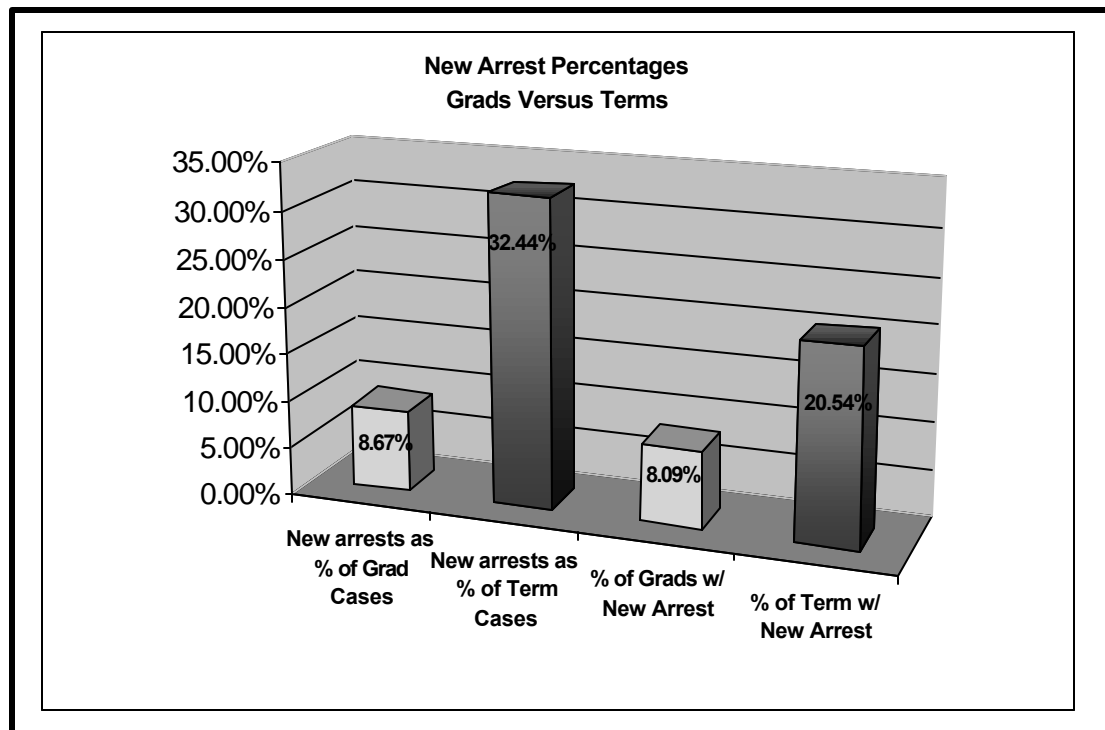
A more realistic representation was obtained by evaluating the number of individuals who had been re-arrested. In the court cited above, the number of individuals arrested was eight. In this interpretation, the individuals would each be counted only once and the rate at which individuals had new arrests was determined to be 44.0%. Figure B-1 shows the total number of individuals arrested in comparison with the total number in each group (Graduated/Terminated).

Figure B-1



The number of graduates with new arrests (28) is slightly less than the number of new arrests for graduates (30). This indicates that overall graduates with new arrests typically had only one new arrest. The difference between the number of terminated individuals with new arrests (69) and the number of new arrests for these individuals (109) was substantially greater, however, indicating that several had multiple new arrests. These differences are further represented by Figure B-2 below.

Figure B-2



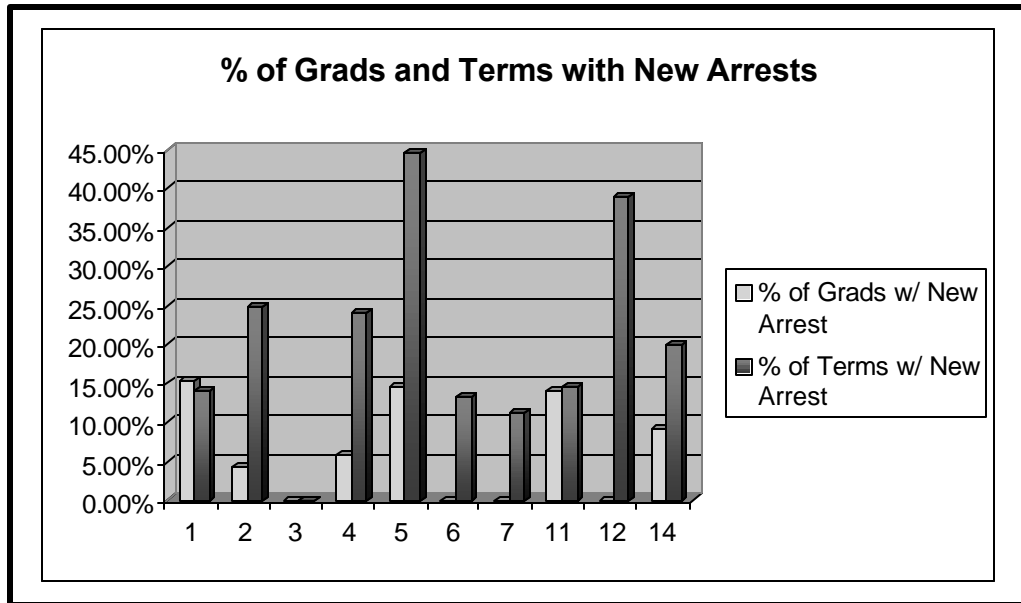
C. Graduated and Terminated with New Arrests by Court

The information above was based on aggregate data. Each assessment was also done individually for the ten adult courts evaluated. The following graph (Figure C) illustrates the percentage of individuals with new arrests from the graduation and termination populations of each of these ten adult felony courts.

In the majority of courts the new arrest percentages were significantly greater for individuals terminated than for graduates. The highest percentage of terminated cases with new arrests was 44%. The lowest percentage was 0%. The highest percentage of graduates with new arrests for any court was 15.07%. The lowest percentage was 0%. Four of the ten courts had no graduates with new arrests. The percentage of individuals with new arrests was higher for termination cases than for graduation cases in all courts, with one exception. Even in that court

however, the number of new arrests for termination cases was more than three times the number of new arrests for graduates.

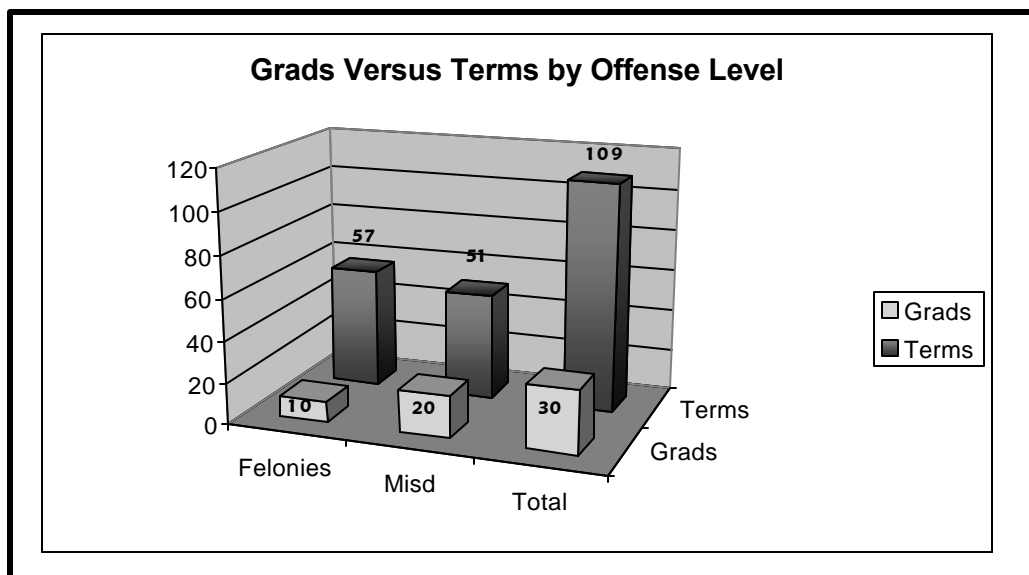
Figure C



D. New Arrests by Level

New arrests were categorized according to level of offense (Felony or Misdemeanor). New arrests for graduates were predominantly for misdemeanor offenses. For termination cases, the majority of new arrests were for felony offenses.

Figure D-1



Only 33% of new arrests for graduates were for felony offenses, while 53% of new arrests for those terminated were for felony offenses as illustrated in Figures D-2 and D-3.

Figure D-2

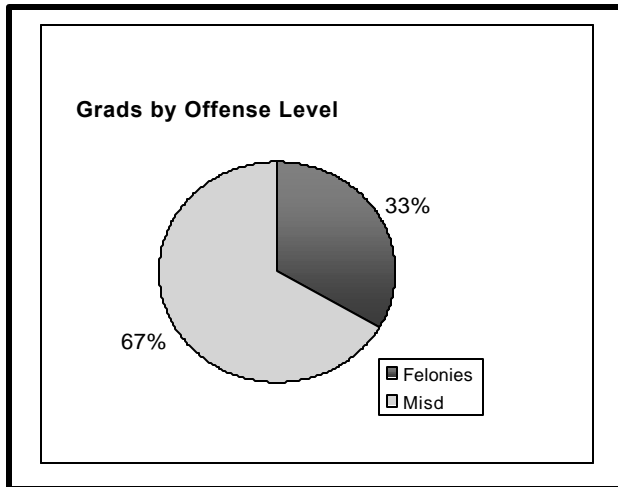
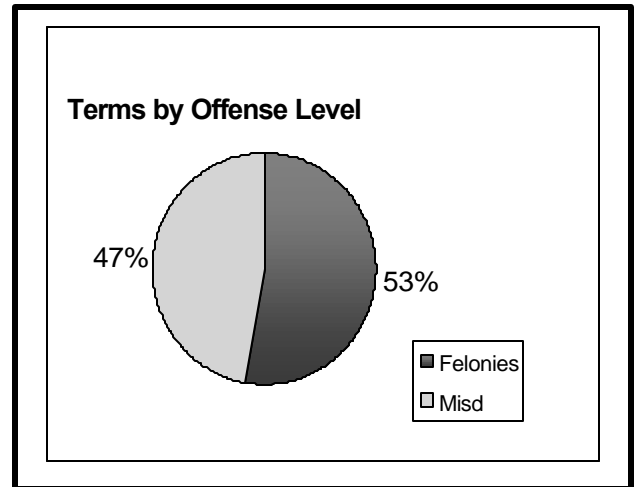


Figure D-3



Figures D-4 and D-5 indicate that 85% of the new felony arrests and 72% of new misdemeanor arrests were attributable to individuals who had been terminated from drug court.

Figure D-4

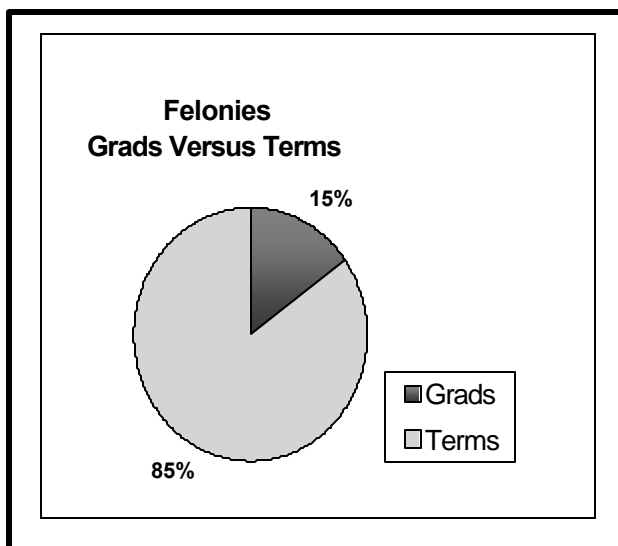
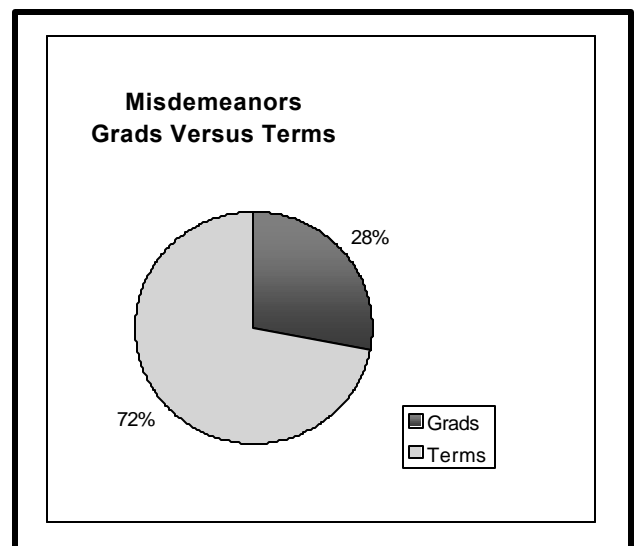


Figure D-5



E. New Arrests by Type

New arrests were also analyzed according to type (Drug versus Non-drug). No significant difference was found between the percentage distribution of drug and non-drug related offenses between those who graduated and those who were terminated. Figures E-1 and E-2 below illustrate the relationship between drug court outcome and offense type. The majority of new arrests were for non-drug related offenses regardless of outcome. 78% of both Drug and Non-drug offenses were attributable to arrests on terminated participants. It is noted that alcohol related offenses were classified as non-drug offenses in the data provided by the MSHP. Additional sources indicated that approximately 16% of non-drug offenses were alcohol related.

Figure E-1

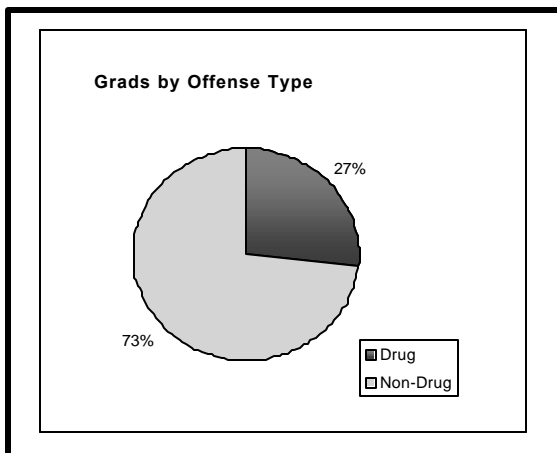
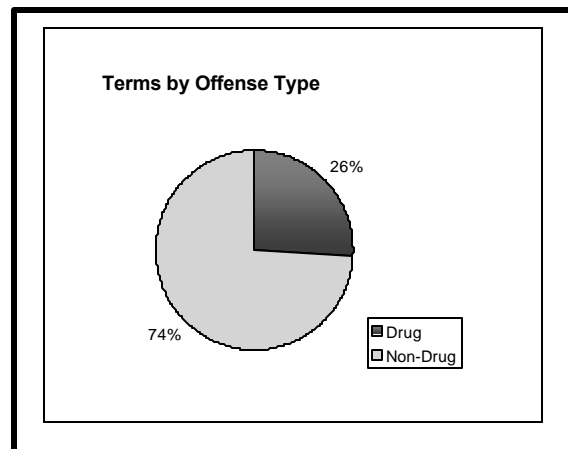


Figure E-2



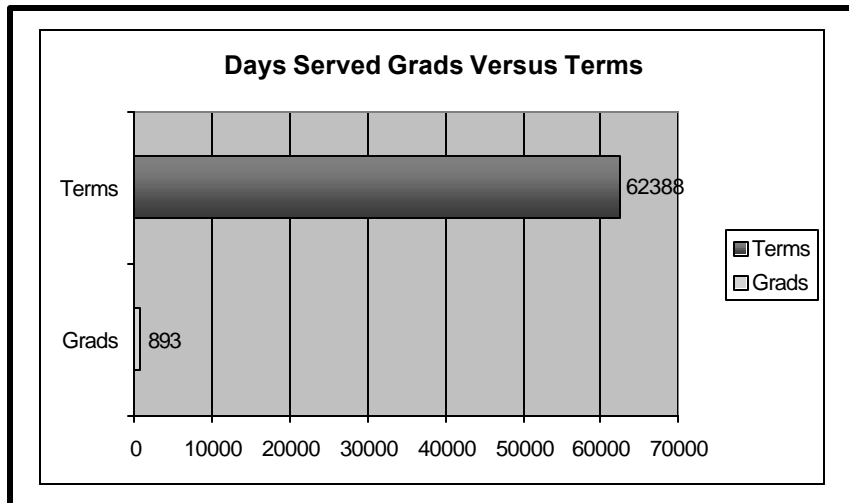
F. Days Served by Program Outcome

Probably the most remarkable data findings are in the comparison of Days Served for participants who graduated versus those who were terminated from drug court. The initial comparison made was on the total number of days served subsequent to admission to drug court.

Days served include days served in DOC facilities and where identifiable, in county facilities, except that days served at a county facility as a sanction during drug court, were not included. If the days were served subsequent to an individual's entry into drug court the days were included in the totals. If an individual was included in the database more than once (multiple admissions resulted in assignment of more than one case number), the days served by the individual were only counted once. This was done in order to avoid duplication and inflation of the totals and decision rules related to the proximity of the case to

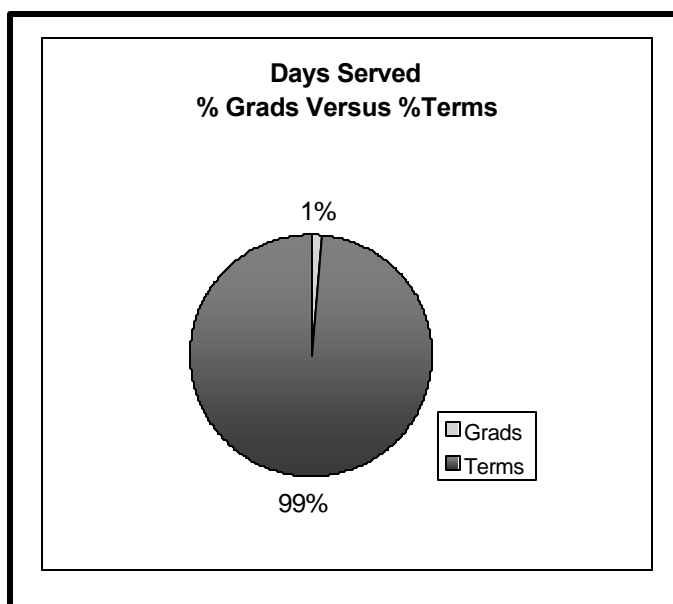
the time served were implemented to determine how to assign the days. Days served were calculated as of October 1, 2001. Figure F-1 illustrates the findings for this initial comparison.

Figure F-1



The following chart shows the percentage of days served by participants who graduated versus those who were terminated. 99% of Total Days Served were served by individuals who had been terminated from drug court.

Figure F-2

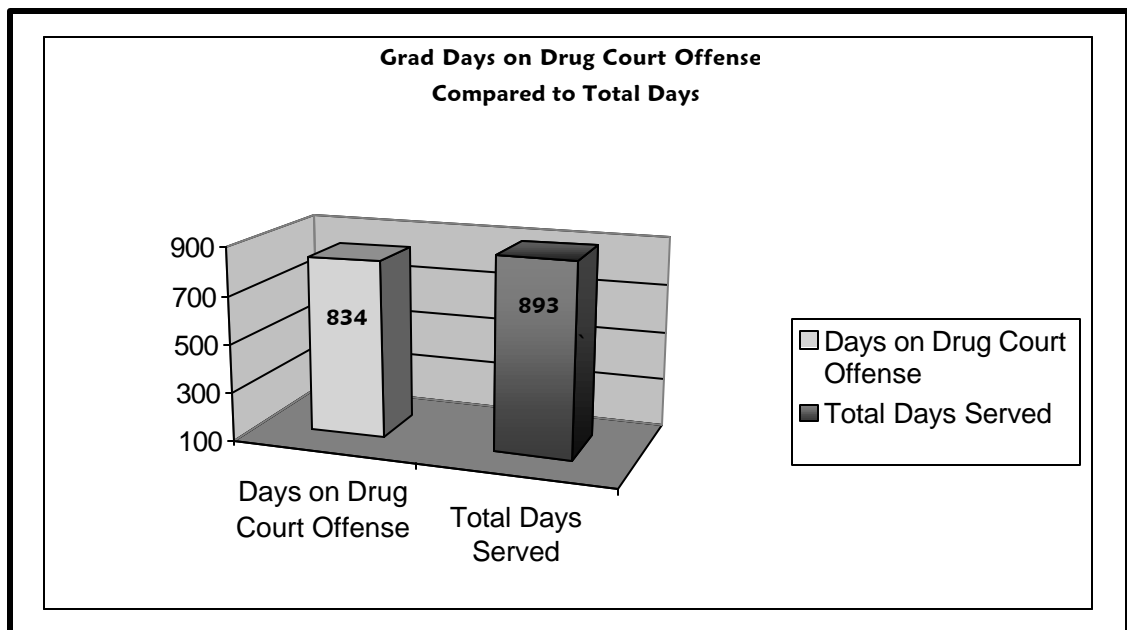


G. Days Served on Drug Court Offense

Days served were classified according to the offense for which they were served. If time was served relative to the drug court offense then the time was counted as Days Served on Drug Court Offense. If the time was served on a sentence for conviction on a subsequent arrest, the time was counted as Days Served on New Arrest. When time served on a new offense was served concurrent with the drug court offense, the time was included in the Days Served on Drug Court Offense, but was also included as Days Served on New Arrest Concurrent with Drug Court Offense. These days were not included twice in Total Days Served, but were classified in this manner in order to determine the total number of days that could be assessed against new arrests.

The majority of days served were served relative to drug court offenses. The following graph Figure G-1 shows the relationship between Days Served on Drug Court Offense and Total Days Served for Graduates.

Figure G-1



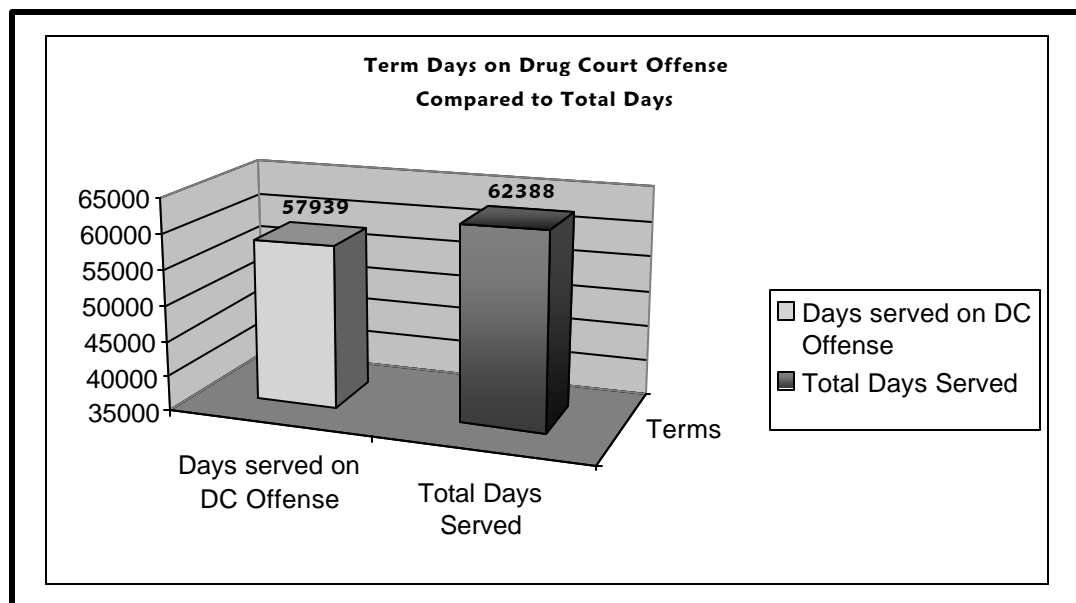
The majority of days served by graduates were served relative to the original drug court offense (93%). This may be an unexpected finding, as in most courts the original offense is either Nolle Processed or the court enters a Suspended Imposition of Sentence upon successful completion of the Drug Court Program. The majority of days served on drug court offenses were served on sentences executed in one court. In this court, graduates are required to complete six months of unsupervised probation

following graduation. When individuals violate this probation, either by new arrest or technical violation, they are frequently revoked and their drug court sentence is executed. Individuals from this court accounted for 88% of the Total Days Served by Graduates and 93% of the Days Served on Drug Court Offenses. Excluding this one court, the Total Days Served for Graduates is 107, and the Days Served on Drug Court Offenses falls to 55. These 55 days were served by one individual, which further indicates that this data is not representative of all ten courts.

The majority of days served by participants who were terminated were also Days Served on Drug Court Offenses. In fact, the same percentage (93%) is found. However, this finding is much more representative of the courts as a whole. It is common among the courts that drug court participants are convicted and sentenced upon termination. In fact, it is considered a positive finding that the courts are disposing of these cases by adjudication. It tends to discount concerns raised by some, that prosecutors direct cases with less than compelling evidence to drug court, as an alternative to dismissal. Given the high number of convictions and days served by terminated individuals on the drug court offenses, it appears that these cases are generally prosecutable.

Figure G-2 illustrates the relationship between Days Served on Drug Court Offense and Total Days Served for those terminated from drug court.

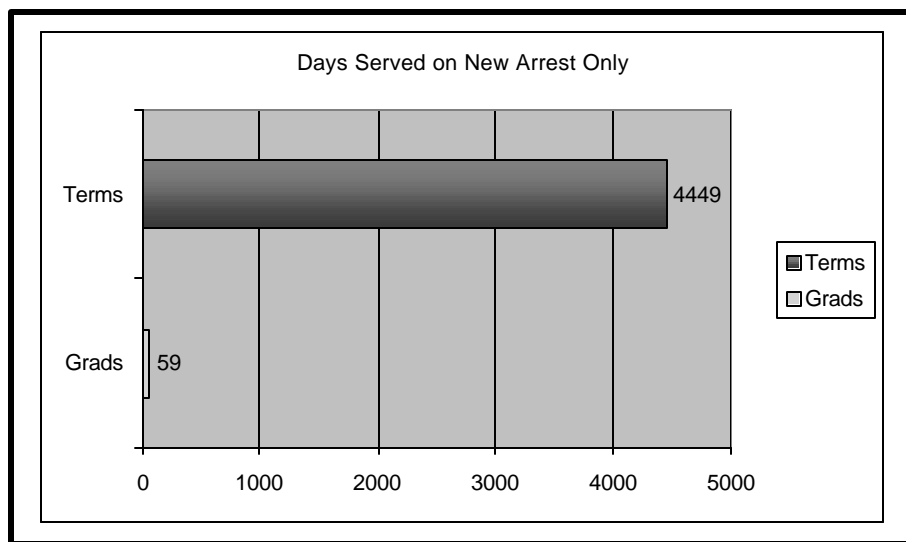
Figure G-2



H. Days Served on New Arrests

Figure H-1 depicts the Number of Days Served on New Arrests. These are days served on sentences executed on new arrests alone. As indicated in the graph, a significantly greater number of incarceration days are attributable to termination cases than to graduation cases. In fact, 99% of Days Served on New Arrests Only were served by participants who had been terminated. This data further illustrates the differential outcomes for graduation versus termination in the areas of arrest and incarceration.

Figure H-1

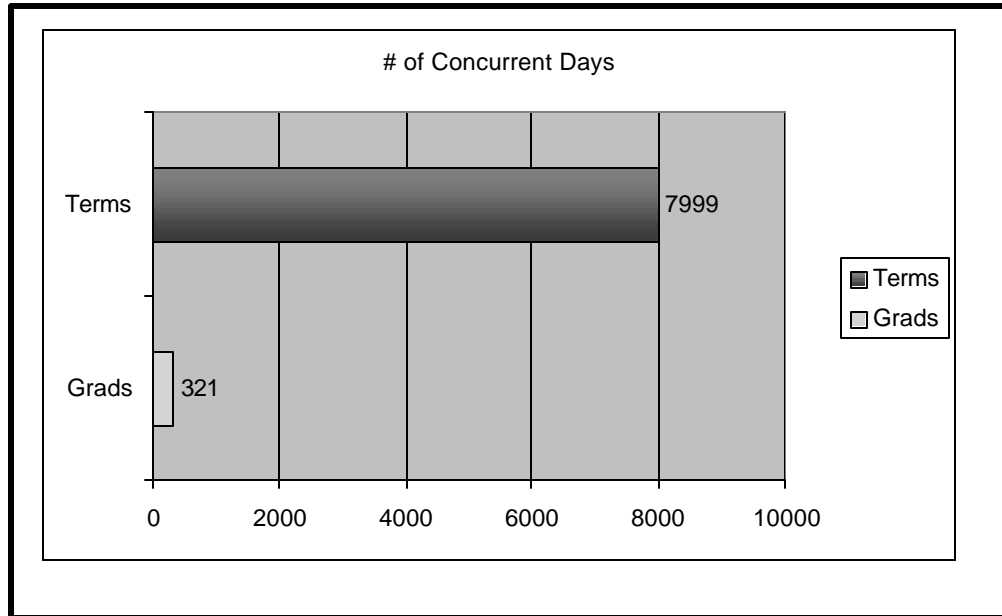


I. Number of Days Served on New Arrests Concurrent with Drug Court Offense

The number of Days Served on New Arrests Concurrent with Drug Court Offense represents days served by drug court participants on new arrests, when the time is ordered to be served concurrent with sentencing on a drug court offense. Although these days do not result in additional costs, per se, since the individual is already incarcerated, it is important to note again, that individuals terminated from drug court are much more likely to be sentenced to the Department of Corrections, than are individuals who successfully complete the program.

Figure I-1 portrays the Number of Days Served on New Arrests Concurrent with Drug Court Offense. Terminated participants account for 96% of the Days Served on New Arrests Concurrent with Drug Court Offenses.

Figure I-1



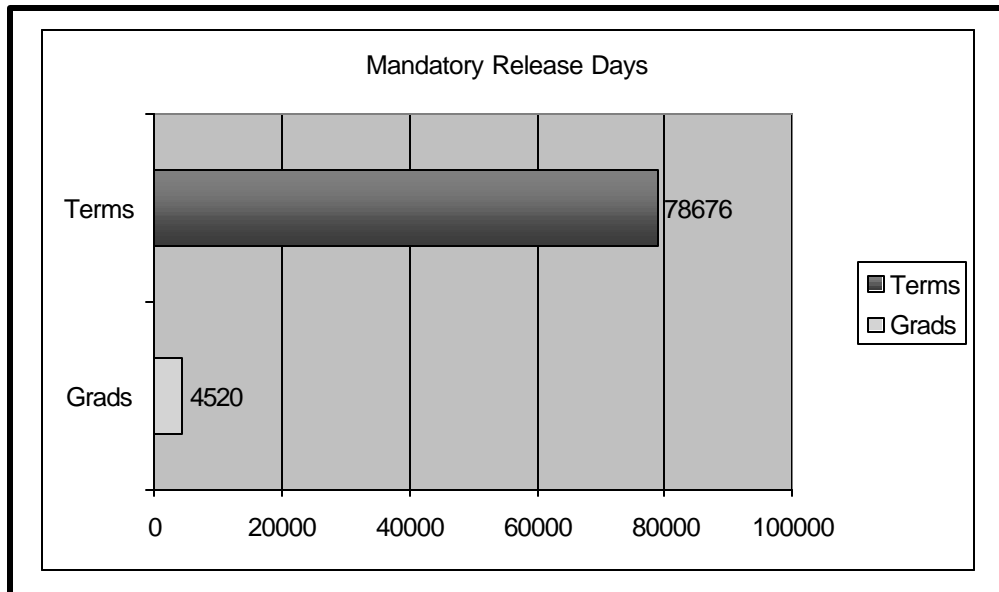
J. Number of Days based on Mandatory Release Dates

As noted in the discussions of findings above, days served were calculated as of October 1, 2001. This was done in order to provide a “snapshot” of the incarceration situation on a date certain. However, many individuals were still in Department of Corrections facilities on that date and those individuals continue to accrue incarceration time.

The DOC provided information regarding the mandatory release dates for individuals incarcerated at the time of their report. The following projections are based on that information. Certainly, some individuals will be released on parole prior to their mandatory release date and other individuals currently not in facilities will likely be revoked and incarcerated. These projections are useful however, in identifying the possible costs and cost savings related to drug court outcomes.

Figure J-1 shows the Number of Days based on Mandatory Release Dates.

Figure J-1



It continues to be apparent that significantly greater incarceration costs are associated with an outcome of termination than of graduation from drug court. These consistent findings indicate that when participants successfully complete the drug court program, remarkable cost savings result.

MULTI-DIMENSIONAL DETERMINANTS OF SUCCESS:

Data from Interviews

Adult Court Participant

Interview Results

Multi-Dimensional Determinants of Success

One's status as a graduated or terminated participant of Drug Court is often viewed as the indicator of success or failure. However, in this study we recognize that success is a multi-dimensional concept. Success of the Drug Court program can be measured using a variety of factors related to changes in the bio/psycho/social functioning of an individual. One incarcerated female's responses were especially poignant in demonstrating just how important it is to recognize the multi-dimensional aspects of success. After the interview was completed she remarked that because she had been terminated from Drug Court, she felt like a failure. As she reflected on the questions posed during the interview and could identify positive improvements in her life, she began to recognize that she was not a complete failure and indeed, there were aspects of her life where she had experienced success because of her participation in Drug Court.

Face-to-face and telephone interviews were conducted with 115 individuals who have been through a Drug Court. The respondents were offered a \$20 incentive for participation. Included in the sample are 17 individuals incarcerated at the time of the interview. Some of the questions, such as free time activities, were omitted for the incarcerated group because they are not applicable to their current situation.

In framing the questions for the interviews, the guiding concept was success of the Drug Court program. Many questions asked about conditions before and after Drug Court to determine if improvements had been experienced. Respondents were asked to objectively and subjectively assess changes. Areas covered include: socialization activities, social responsibility, social integration, and quality of life. In addition, consumer satisfaction issues are covered to identify what aspects of the program lead to success from the participants' perspective.

Results are reported in three components. First, a set of quotes has been selected that illustrates the richness of information gained in the interviews. The next component of results is the table showing the proportion of graduated and terminated respondents falling in particular categories of responses. Finally, a brief narrative explains more fully what the data show.

Socialization Activities

While in the Drug Court, participants often go through a process of learning a new set of expectations regarding behavioral norms, particularly regarding how to use their time. As they begin to participate in the larger society outside the drug culture, many of their activities are mandated through the treatment regime and they have little free time. As they move into later phases of the program and eventually leave drug court, they have more discretion over how to use their time. Activities that indicate they are participating more fully in society are viewed as an indicator of success.

<< >>

“Before Drug Court all I did was party.”

“Don’t have much free time now. Spend it with my family.” typical responses

Free Time Allocation

Type activity	# Grads now	# Grads prior to DC	# Terms now	# Terms prior to DC
At home with family & friends	54	20	18	14
Games, hobbies	45	13	19	14
School, religious activity	30	4	8	2
Drugs, bars	1	56	1	33

Comparing the types of activities that both the graduated and terminated individuals participated in prior to Drug Court and since, there has been a marked shift away from activities related to using drugs and alcohol and toward other uses of time, especially time with family and friends, and keeping occupied with games and hobbies.

<< >>

Increases in Educational Attainment

Number of Additional Years of Schooling since Drug Court	# Grads	# Terms
1	13	8
2	3	3
3	1	4
4	2	0

Almost 30% of those interviewed showed at least a one year increase in educational attainment. Those who have not received a high school diploma are required to work toward their GED while in Drug Court. Those individuals account for some of the increases. Others were choosing to pursue additional schooling to earn a diploma or degree.

"I understand men and family issues and my own behavior much better now."
incarcerated female who indicated her education had changed for the better
because of Drug Court

"Now I have the confidence to continue my education." female, graduated

Subjective Assessment of Changes in Education

	worse	same	better
# Graduated	0	35	31
# Terminated	1	27	16

Many respondents who indicated an improvement in this area interpreted this question as a change in knowledge about life. Others stated a response in the context of conditions being more positive to pursue more education.

Social Responsibility

Often Drug Court participants had not been fully engaged in social roles like parent and worker because of their addiction. Maintaining or increasing their involvement in roles is an indicator of success. Continuing to receive treatment without the court mandate to enforce it, is also an indicator of success.

Changes in Employment Status

Employment Level	# Grads now	# Grads prior to DC	# Terms now	# Terms prior to DC
Full	41	33	17	19
Part-time	9	12	4	7
Unemployment	4	16	22	15
Student	6	1	0	2
Disabled	5	3	2	2

The data on participant characteristics at entry indicate that being employed full-time is strongly related to graduating. An indicator of program success could be increases in number of people employed full-time. Indeed, more graduated individuals are in full time jobs now. The number of terminated participants holding full-time jobs actually decreased. It may be that a reason for termination was not maintaining employment. It is also interesting to note that more of the graduated people are students, indicating that they are improving their abilities. More graduated people are now identified as disabled. This can also be viewed as a success indicator if the individuals have had a disability diagnosed and are receiving the resources needed to cope with the disability and fulfill other social roles.

<< >>

“Drug Court restricts what kind of job you can have because of the court and Probation Officer’s hours.” typical comment of terminated respondents
“Never worked when I was using. Work all the time now and it makes me feel important.” female, graduated

Subjective Assessment of Changes in Job Situation

	worse	same	better
# Graduated	3	25	37
# Terminated	8	18	15

Many respondents talked about changes in their job situation in the context of time and scheduling demands of Drug Court. Those who reported a change for the worse were ones who may have had to take a lower paying job, often at night so they could make it to court, P.O. meetings, and treatment sessions. Often, those who reported a better job situation as a result of Drug Court, were managing to hold onto one job for the longest period of their life.

Number of Jobs Held While in Drug Court

# of jobs	Grads	Terms
0	0	3 (15%)
1	36(74%)	12(60%)
2	10(20%)	3(15%)
3+	3(6%)	2(10%)

A greater proportion of graduated individuals had just one job while in Drug Court and they had had the one job on average for 11.35 months of the last year. The terminated individuals on average held their most recent job for 7.65 months out of 12. Some of the terminated respondents reported they were terminated because they did not have a job.

The average monthly pay for graduated individuals was \$1,610 and for terminated individuals, \$1,295. In addition, 80% of those who graduated and 45% of those who were terminated had received a raise or promotion on their job. These statistics indicate that graduated individuals are functioning at a higher level in the work environment than are terminated individuals.

<< >>

Sources of Income

Source	# Grads now	# Grads prior to DC	# Terms now	# Terms prior to DC
Child support	1	4	0	0
Family	17	21	8	13
Public assistance	8	4	1	3
Transfer	11	4	3	5
Illegal	0	6	0	3

In comparing sources of income before and after Drug Court, changes can be interpreted in two ways. Increases in numbers of people receiving income from a source other than employment could mean that an individual's level of living has improved because s/he now has income from more sources. It could also mean that an individual is now more dependent on others for support. Fewer graduated respondents now receive child support and support from family. More of those who graduated are receiving public assistance and transfer payments. Thus they have experienced a shift from income from family to income from governmental sources. The terminated group has experienced a decline in income from all sources covered. The main source of illegal income was drug dealing. Interestingly, several individuals reported a decline in income adequacy because they no longer engaged in the lucrative drug trade.

My income adequacy *“is worse because I am no longer dealing.”*
 My income adequacy *“has improved because I no longer have a habit to support.”*

Changes in Income Adequacy

change	# Grads	# Terms
Much worse now	3(5%)	0
Worse now	7(11%)	5(18%)
same	20(31%)	12(43%)
A little better	16(25%)	7(11%)
Much better	14(21%)	4(14%)
Substantially better	5(8%)	0

A large proportion of both groups reports no change in income adequacy as a result of Drug Court. Sixteen percent of those who graduated and 18% of those who were terminated actually report a deterioration.

<< >>

Drug Use Since Drug Court

Ever used	# grads	# terms
Alcohol	27(41%)	20(45%)
Drugs	14(21%)	19(43%)

A fairly high proportion of both groups report using alcohol since they finished Drug Court. A higher proportion of terminated individuals report having used a drug, most commonly marijuana or cocaine, and some report using on a daily basis. Some people, including those who graduated, explained that they use marijuana for medicinal reasons.

<< >>

Treatment Activities Since Drug Court

	# graduated	# terminated
Individual counseling	20	20
Group Treatment	35	19
Support Group-AA/NA	5	2

Many of the respondents in both groups continue to receive some type of treatment even if it is no longer required.

Social Integration

Many people entering Drug Court are socially isolated. Increasing the frequency and intensity of contacts with others are indicators of movement toward successful social integration.

Stability of Living Arrangements

stable	# Grads	# Terms
Prior	36	26
Now	57	32

More individuals in both groups are now in stable living arrangements. This could be a shift from a shelter to living on one's own in an apartment or a move to a more desirable location in a community.

<< >>

Subjective Assessment of Changes in Living Arrangements

	worse	same	better
# Graduated	1	19	55
# Terminated	7	11	24

The majority of both groups felt their living arrangements were better since Drug Court.

<< >>

"My son is mad at me. My mother doesn't trust me." female, terminated
"Now I do the dad thing. Its my job." male, graduated

Level of Engagement with Dependents

	# Grads now	# Grads prior to DC	# Terms now	# Terms prior to DC
Live with Child	24	20	6	7
Pay Child Support	6	4	0	5
Some contact	16	16	12	14
No Contact	3	7	5	2

A greater proportion of graduates now has contact with their children, including an increase in those living with children. Outcomes are not so positive for terminated individuals. Fewer now have contact with children than before and the data indicate that it is females who are more often cut off from children.

“The drug man used to be my source of support.” Female, graduated
“Before I didn’t know how to accept help. Now I am in counseling to learn how to accept it.” female, terminated

Sources of Support

Source	# Grads now	# Grads prior to DC	# Terms now	# Terms prior to DC
Immed. Family	59	35	35	29
Extended Family	19	9	12	6
Friends	41	19	25	17
Community	23	9	8	3
Treatment	39	5	17	3

Both groups report an increase in sources of support. Many report that when they were using, they did not realize they needed help or did not know how to ask for it. Now they are learning to reach out to others for help in coping with life’s difficulties.

<< >>

“Before my only relationships were with drugs. Now I have feelings and care about people.” male, graduated

Subjective Assessment of Changes in Relationships

	worse	same	better
# Graduated	1	7	57
# Terminated	8	16	19

Most of the graduated respondents report improvements in relationships, often attributing the change to not using drugs or alcohol. Those who have worse relationships often attribute the change to the reality of their addiction and behavior finally sinking in.

<< >>

“I used to avoid people. Now I seek to interact.” female, graduated

Subjective Assessment of Changes in Community Involvement

	worse	same	better
# Graduated	2	25	36
# Terminated	1	15	22

Most respondents in both groups report positive changes in their level of community involvement. They often comment that they are no longer isolated by their habit. Even terminated individuals report more social support, often through a treatment group.

"My family tries to help but they really don't understand my addiction." female, graduated

"I used to put alot of distance between my family and me. They have increased their emotional support by 120%." female, graduated

Changes in Amount of Family Support

change	# Grads	# Terms
Much less	0	1
A little less	2	3
Same	8	13
A little more	13	11
Much more	42	17

Some respondents explained that they used to get a lot of family support but not the right kind. They would describe instances of family bailing them out of troubles over and over and essentially enabling them to continue negative behavior patterns. Others reported on the importance of the emotional support provided by family members.

Quality of Life Indicators

All the above measures are either objective or subjective indicators of quality of life. Ultimately any program's success should reflect improvements in the quality of life of participants. Research indicates that the key indicators of quality of life are physical and mental health status and some measure of an individual's subjective evaluation of quality of life.

<< >>

"underweight" "malnourished" common descriptions of health status prior to Drug Court

"I was dying before Drug Court." male, graduated

Physical Health Status Change

change	# Grads	# Terms
Much worse	2	2
A little worse	2	2
Same	11	17
A little better	24	13
Much better	27	11

Of those reporting improved health status after Drug Court, improvements were largely attributable to better nutrition and management of health problems.

<< >>

"Drugs weren't my first issue; stress and depression were." male, graduated

Mental Health Status Change

change	# Grads	# Terms
Much worse	0	1
A little worse	2	3
Same	8	13
A little better	13	11
Much better	42	17

A few respondents reported worse mental health because they now were more in touch with reality. Most reported improvements because they are working on issues previously ignored, using better judgement and thinking more clearly.

"I'm bummed out but accept where I'm at" male, graduated, lower life satisfaction

"Used to have a kick ass life. Everything I touched turned to gold. Went into deep depression when I was arrested." Male, graduated, lower life satisfaction

"No comparison in life satisfaction. Before I wanted to die. I never had a chance to see how life could be. I used from age 12." incarcerated male, terminated, higher life satisfaction

Subjective Assessment of Changes in Life Satisfaction

	worse	same	Better
# Graduated	4	4	57
# Terminated	4	8	31

Not everyone one who graduated reported higher life satisfaction and most who were terminated did cite improvements in life satisfaction. The respondents reporting lower life satisfaction often explained that they are now more in touch with reality and viewing their life more clearly. They did express hope that life would be better in the future.

Consumer Satisfaction Indicators

Success of a program is measured not only through positive changes in participant behavior but also through participants' perceptions of the program components.

"No SIS even though told there would be one." male, graduated

Program Expectations at Entry into Drug Court

Expectation	# grads	# terms
Obtain drug treatment	11	15
Alternative to jail	11	8
No felony	17	7
Get kids back	2	0
Improved quality of life	7	3
Not much	14	10

Graduated individuals most often cited no felony as their expectation from Drug Court. Terminated individuals most often cited obtaining drug treatment. Almost one fourth of the combined groups stated they did not expect much from Drug Court.

<< >>

Satisfaction with Help Received from Treatment Team

"The judge cared. Some people treated us like dirt, but not him." male, terminated

"supportive", "knowledge of addicts", "very fair" common descriptors of judge

Judge

	# Grads	# Terms
Dissatisfied	8	14
Neutral	0	4
Satisfied	58	26

The judge ultimately determines the status of Drug Court participants. Most graduated individuals were satisfied with the judge. Many of the terminated individuals were not satisfied and as reflected in the above negative comments, felt the judge was either not impartial enough or too impartial.

<< >>

“awesome, treated me like an individual”, male, graduated
“doesn’t understand addiction”, “discouraging”, “not honest” other descriptors
 from graduated and terminated respondents

Probation Officer		
	# Grads	# Terms
Dissatisfied	7	18
Neutral	1	2
Satisfied	58	24

About the same proportion of individuals in both groups had the similar impressions of the judge and probation officer. In both cases participants generally had strong feelings one way or the other about these two team members.

<< >>

“too nosy”, “no respect”, “showed favoritism”, “out to get me”
“supportive”, “understanding”, “most positive impact”

Treatment Counselor		
	# Grads	# Terms
Dissatisfied	5	13
Neutral	2	5
Satisfied	59	25

The graduated individuals felt generally very favorable toward the treatment counselor and perceived that team member as having made a difference in their lives. Terminated individuals were more likely to perceive that a failing of the treatment provider, as reflected in the above negative comments, contributed to the termination.

<< >>

“cold”, “Just doing her job”,
“never spoke with”, “no contact” frequent comments

Prosecuting Attorney		
	# Grads	# Terms
Dissatisfied	11	12
Neutral	25	14
Satisfied	30	18

Many individuals had very little contact with the prosecuting attorney and thus, did not have an opinion about this team member. While the greatest proportion of both groups were satisfied, it was those who were dissatisfied who most often had additional comments.

<< >>

“never saw one” male, graduated

“didn’t seem to care after I paid him” male, graduated

“without him I would have gone to prison” male, graduated

Defense Attorney		
	# Grads	# Terms
Dissatisfied	10	7
Neutral	17	5
Satisfied	38	32

For some individuals the defense attorney did not play a major role in their drug court experience, at least not on the intense personal level of other team members.

Levels of Satisfaction with Diverse Program Elements

“guilty until proven innocent”, “needs more individuality”

“Very fair. You get many chances”

Program Fairness		
	# Grads	# Terms
Dissatisfied	11	25
Neutral	0	1
Satisfied	55	18

Respondents tended to have very strong opinions about this program component. At times respondents expressed concerns that there was too much impartiality and their particular concerns were not addressed, especially regarding health issues and family demands that conflicted with drug court demands. At other times, respondents expressed concern that everyone was not treated equally, especially in handing out sanctions. For the same behavior, one individual may be terminated and another spend a weekend in jail.

<< >>

"thought I could play the system" male, graduated
"too messed up to understand anything" male, graduated
"very clear" typical comment

Understanding of Program Prior to Entry

	# Grads	# Terms
Dissatisfied	19	18
Neutral	6	2
Satisfied	41	23

A significant number of individuals in both groups were dissatisfied with their understanding of the demands of the program before they began. Respondents expressed confusion about the voluntary nature of the program and about implications for their criminal record.

<< >>

"It was confusing. I thought it was voluntary. I did not understand that I had waived a preliminary hearing and narrowed further options." female, terminated
"It was very clear. They got that right" male, graduated

Understanding of Alternatives to Drug Court

	# Grads	# Terms
Dissatisfied	9	17
Neutral	2	3
Satisfied	55	24

Most individuals were satisfied that they understood their alternatives. Some had not met with an attorney to have options explained.

<< >>

"I needed more. They let me get away with too much." incarcerated male, terminated
"Sanctions were issued unfairly." female, graduated
"Good idea. People do make mistakes" male, graduated

Use of Sanctions

	# Grads	# Terms
Dissatisfied	11	20
Neutral	7	6
Satisfied	48	18

Comments generally focused on needing more and tougher sanctions and the unfair use of sanctions, e.g. same behavior results in different sanctions. Terminated individuals were more likely to be dissatisfied, often attributing their termination to too few or too harsh sanctions.

<< >>

“What rewards?” male, terminated

“Rewards are within one’s self” male, graduated

Use of Rewards		
	# Grads	# Terms
Dissatisfied	9	14
Neutral	13	11
Satisfied	44	19

Feelings were not as strong regarding rewards and many respondents actually discounted this component, stating that rewards are intrinsic. Some individuals did like more tangible rewards like movie passes or magnets and a few commented on the recognition for good behavior.

<< >>

“Had to earn it.” male, graduated

“Counselors have a higher than you attitude” male, terminated

Respect Given by Drug Court Team		
	# Grads	# Terms
Dissatisfied	10	16
Neutral	0	5
Satisfied	56	23

This seems to be more of an issue for graduated than terminated respondents given that no graduated respondent was neutral. Most of those who graduated were satisfied. For some terminated individuals lack of respect seems to be another way they explain their termination.

<< >>

“Never met a colored person who made it through”

“Everyone was treated the same.” typical comment

Team Sensitivity to Race and Gender

	# Grads	# Terms
Dissatisfied	6	6
Neutral	11	14
Satisfied	49	23

Very few explicit comments were made about gender issues in response to this query. However, female respondents often described difficulties in meeting drug court demands that conflicted with caring giving and parenting roles. Race was an issue with half of the African-American respondents stating they were not satisfied with the team sensitivity to their particular issues. Age also came up as an issue. Middle-aged respondents did not like being in treatment groups with teenagers.

<< >>

“I was surprised they were seeing other issues.” male, terminated

“Should work with real problems instead of problem at hand (drugs)” male, terminated

Help with Non-Drug Issues

	# Grads	# Terms
Dissatisfied	8	16
Neutral	7	9
Satisfied	51	19

A drug court tenet is that participants' needs will be met with a range of services, not just substance abuse treatment. Terminated individuals were more likely to not be satisfied with this component of the program. Many stated that they had other issues (mental and physical health, family and relationship problems) that were not addressed. Some respondents expressed displeasure with the treatment providers extensive use of a workbook designed to teach people about the impacts of various substances.

<< >>

"I got to try new drugs thanks to my treatment group." female, terminated

Sources of Negative Experiences in Drug Court

	# Grads	# Terms
Nothing	23	8
Treatment Provider	10	7
Probation Officer	6	10
Judge	7	5
Group	2	7
Family	1	1
Rewards	1	0
Sanctions	2	0
Defender	3	1
Prosecutor	1	1

Many graduated individuals could not identify a source of a negative experience in Drug Court. The treatment providers and groups were often cited as having a negative impact on individuals. Members of the group sometimes provided exposure to new drugs. The mix of the group was viewed as negative. Gender, race, and age differences were cited as sources of conflict in the group. The probation officer was cited as a source of negative experiences for many individuals. The probation officer's role in identifying and reporting violations led some individuals to feel s/he was out to get him/her.

<< >>

the individual selected was *“fair” “understanding” “supportive” “listened to me”*

Most Positive Aspect of Program

	Grads	Terms
Nothing	0	6
Treatment Provider	26	15
Probation Officer	14	7
Judge	9	7
Group	4	2
Family	6	2
Residential	1	0
Rewards	2	0
Sanctions	1	0
Sponsor	1	0

A few of the terminated individuals could see nothing positive in the program. The treatment provider and the probation officer were most often cited as having had a positive impact for the reasons quoted above. These responses indicate that the personal interactions and indications that an individual is recognized as a unique human being are highly valued attributes of the drug court experience.

<< >>

“If you work as hard at staying clean as you did at getting high, the program works.” male, graduated

“great idea but too intense” male, terminated

Overall Satisfaction with Program

	# Grads	# Terms
Dissatisfied	5	13
Neutral	1	3
Satisfied	58	22

It is not surprising that some terminated individuals are not satisfied with a program they did not complete. What is surprising is how many terminated individuals were satisfied with the program. This group of respondents often acknowledged that they were responsible for their outcome.

Individuals were generally satisfied if they perceived the program ‘worked for them.’ Many respondents made reference to the intensely personal nature of drug court. Because it is so personal, relationships with team members are vital to success.

In sum, individuals experience many positive changes in drug court. Most shift away from drug-related activities to more mainstream activities involving other people, school, and work. Employment and outcomes are strongly related. Those who retain a job, are promoted and who earn a living wage are more likely to graduate. Most individuals, regardless of outcome, experience improvements in living arrangements and relationships. Many individuals are better able to recognize differences in the quality of relationships. Finally, most individuals interviewed expressed improvements in their overall life satisfaction and those who did not feel it was better at present, expressed hope for the future.

In examining how the drug court contributed to their success, most respondents identified an individual on the team rather than a particular program component as best explaining their success. The component generating the most dissatisfaction was 'understanding of program prior to entry.' Generally respondents were satisfied with the overall program.

Family Court Participants

Interview Results

Multi-Dimensional Determinants of Success **In Family Drug Court**

Face-to-face and telephone interviews were conducted with 9 individuals who have been through a Family Drug Court. The respondents were offered a \$20 incentive for participation.

In framing the questions for the interviews, the guiding concept was success of the Drug Court program. Many questions asked about conditions before and after Drug Court to determine if improvements had been experienced. Respondents were asked to objectively and subjectively assess changes. Areas covered include: socialization activities, social responsibility, social integration, and quality of life. In addition, consumer satisfaction issues are covered to identify what aspects of the program lead to success from the participants' perspective.

Results are reported in three components. First, a set of quotes has been selected that illustrates the richness of information gained in the interviews. The next component of results is the table showing the number of graduated and terminated respondents falling in particular categories of responses. Finally, a brief narrative explains more fully what the data show.

Socialization Activities

While in the Drug Court, participants often go through a process of learning a new set of expectations regarding behavioral norms, particularly regarding how to use their time. As they begin to participate in the larger society outside the drug culture, many of their activities are mandated through the treatment regime and they have little free time. As they move into later phases of the program and eventually leave drug court, they have more discretion over how to use their time. Activities that indicate they are participating more fully in society are viewed as an indicator of success.

<< >>

“Before Drug Court all I did was party.”

“Don’t have much free time now. Spend it with my family.” typical responses

Free Time Allocation

Type activity	# Grads now	# Grads prior to DC	# Terms now	# Terms prior to DC
At home with family & friends	6	3	3	1
Games, hobbies	4	1	2	0
School, religious activity	1	1	0	0
Drugs, bars	0	5	0	3

Comparing the types of activities that both the graduated and terminated individuals participated in prior to Drug Court and since, there has been a shift away from activities related to using drugs and alcohol and toward other uses of time, especially time with family and friends, and keeping occupied with games and hobbies.

<< >>

Increases in Educational Attainment

None of the interviewees reported any increase in educational attainment while in Drug Court.

<< >>

“I am putting forth more effort.” female, graduated

“I plan to go back to school.” female, graduated

Subjective Assessment of Changes in Education

	worse	same	better
# Graduated	0	2	4
# Terminated	0	1	2

Some of the respondents who indicated an improvement in this area interpreted this question as a change in desire to get more education.

Social Responsibility

Often Drug Court participants had not been fully engaged in social roles like parent and worker because of their addiction. Maintaining or increasing their involvement in roles is an indicator of success. Continuing to receive treatment without the court mandate to enforce it, is also an indicator of success.

Changes in Employment Status

Employment Level	# Grads now	# Grads prior to DC	# Terms now	# Terms prior to DC
Full	2	3	1	1
Part-time	0	2	0	2
Unemployment	2	1	2	0
Student	1	0	0	0
Disabled	1	0	0	0

The data on participant characteristics at entry indicate that being employed full-time is strongly related to graduating. An indicator of program success could be increases in number of people employed full-time. Among the individuals interviewed, less are now employed than before Drug Court. The two main reasons for current unemployment are being a full-time mother and injury.

<< >>

Subjective Assessment of Changes in Job Situation

	worse	same	better	missing
# Graduated	0	2	4	0
# Terminated	0	0	1	2

Those who are now unemployed reported their job situation was the same or else did not respond to the question.

Number of Jobs Held While in Drug Court

# of jobs	Grads	Terms
0	1	2
1	3	1
2	1	0
3+	1	0

<< >>

Sources of Income

Source	# Grads now	# Grads prior to DC	# Terms now	# Terms prior to DC
Child support	2	1	0	0
Family	1	0	1	2
Public assistance	2	3	2	2
Transfer	0	0	0	0
Illegal	0	0	0	0

In comparing sources of income before and after Drug Court, changes can be interpreted in two ways. Increases in numbers of people receiving income from a source other than employment could mean that an individual's level of living has improved because s/he now has income from more sources. It could also mean that an individual is now more dependent on others for support.

<< >>

My income adequacy *"is worse because my baby's father left me."* terminated female

Changes in Income Adequacy

change	# Grads	# Terms
Much worse now	0	1
Worse now	0	0
same	4	1
A little better	1	1
Much better	1	0
Substantially better	0	0

Respondents sometimes interpreted this question in terms of futures prospects for income improvement rather than experienced improvement in income.

<< >>

Drug Use Since Drug Court

Ever used	# grads	# terms
Alcohol	0	1
Drugs	0	0

This group of respondents reported almost no drug use.

<< >>

"I would like to continue in treatment but I don't have any child care." female, terminated

Treatment Activities Since Drug Court

	# graduated	# terminated
Individual counseling	0	1
Group Treatment	5	2
Support Group-AA/NA	1	0

Not all of the respondents continue to receive some type of treatment and some receive more than one kind.

<< >>

Social Integration

Many people entering Drug Court are socially isolated. Increasing the frequency and intensity of contacts with others are indicators of movement toward successful social integration.

Stability of Living Arrangements

stable	# Grads	# Terms
Prior	5	3
Now	6	3

More individuals in both groups are now in stable living arrangements. This could be a shift from a shelter to living on one's own in an apartment or a move to a more desirable location in a community.

<< >>

"My living arrangements are better because I moved away from the heavy drug areas."

Female, graduated

Subjective Assessment of Changes in Living Arrangements

	worse	same	better
# Graduated	0	0	6
# Terminated	0	1	2

The respondents generally felt their living arrangements were better since Drug Court.

<< >>

I always talk to my kids about drugs so they will know.” Female, graduated

Level of Engagement with Dependents

	# Grads now	# Grads prior to DC	# Terms now	# Terms prior to DC
Live with Child	6	5	2	2
Pay Child Support	0	0	0	0
Some contact	0	1	1	0
No Contact	0	0	0	1

The respondents experienced some improvement in their level of engagement with their children.

<< >>

Sources of Support

Source	# Grads now	# Grads prior to DC	# Terms now	# Terms prior to DC
Immed. Family	4	4	3	3
Extended Family	2	2	0	0
Friends	4	2	2	1
Community	4	1	0	0
Treatment	3	0	1	0

<< >>

“The secret is out and I can be myself now.” Female, graduated

Subjective Assessment of Changes in Relationships

	worse	same	better
# Graduated	0	0	6
# Terminated	1	0	2

All the respondents but one felt their relationships had improved since Drug Court.

<< >>

Subjective Assessment of Changes in Community Involvement

	worse	same	better
# Graduated	0	0	6
# Terminated	0	1	2

Those citing improvements mentioned more involvement in children's school activities.

<< >>

Changes in Amount of Family Support

change	# Grads	# Terms
Much less	0	0
A little less	0	0
Same	3	2
A little more	3	1
Much more	0	0

None of the respondents experienced a deterioration in support received from family members.

<< >>

Quality of Life Indicators

All the above measures are either objective or subjective indicators of quality of life. Ultimately any program's success should reflect improvements in the quality of life of participants. Research indicates that the key indicators of quality of life are physical and mental health status and some measure of an individual's subjective evaluation of quality of life.

<< >>

Physical Health Status Change

change	# Grads	# Terms
Much worse	0	0
A little worse	1	1
Same	0	0
A little better	3	1
Much better	2	1

Those reporting a deterioration in health status had experienced an injury or illness since Drug Court.

<< >>

Mental Health Status Change

change	# Grads	# Terms
Much worse	0	0
A little worse	1	0
Same	0	1
A little better	2	1
Much better	3	1

Most of the respondents reported an improvement in their mental health status. Some acknowledged that it is normal to have bad moments and that one must learn to cope with them.

“Strange new world. Its like I am finally waking up.” Female, terminated

Subjective Assessment of Changes in Life Satisfaction

	worse	same	better
# Graduated	0	0	6
# Terminated	1	0	2

As with the Adult Drug Court respondents, even some terminated individuals report that their life satisfaction is better.

<< >>

Consumer Satisfaction Indicators

Success of a program is measured not only through positive changes in participant behavior but also through participants' perceptions of the program components.

“At first I did it for my kids, then I did it for me.” Female, graduated

Program Expectations at Entry into Drug Court

Expectation	# grads	# terms
Obtain drug treatment	2	2
Alternative to jail		
No felony		
Get kids back	1	1
Improved quality of life		
Not much	4	

Of those respondents with any expectations, drug treatment and reunification with children were the two cited.

<< >>

Satisfaction with Help Received from Treatment Team

“Love that lady. She will go out of her way to help!” female, graduated

“She was stern enough to let us know she wasn't playing.” Female, graduated

Judge

	# Grads	# Terms
Dissatisfied		
Neutral		
Satisfied	6	3

The judge ultimately determines the status of Drug Court participants. These respondents were satisfied with the judge(commissioner) regardless of their status.

<< >>

“Very supportive.” Typical comment

DFS		
	# Grads	# Terms
Dissatisfied		
Neutral	1	
Satisfied	5	3

<< >>

“She helped me get on the right road.” female, graduated

Treatment Counselor		
	# Grads	# Terms
Dissatisfied		1
Neutral	1	
Satisfied	5	2

<< >>

Prosecuting Attorney		
	# Grads	# Terms
Dissatisfied		
Neutral	6	3
Satisfied		

Many individuals had very little contact with the prosecuting attorney and thus, did not have an opinion about this team member.

<< >>

“Hard to reach. She didn’t want to hear my side.” Female, graduated

Defense Attorney		
	# Grads	# Terms
Dissatisfied	1	
Neutral	2	
Satisfied	3	3

For some individuals the defense attorney did not play a major role in their drug court experience, at least not on the intense personal level of other team members.

"Really worked with me." Female, graduated

Guardian ad litem		
	# Grads	# Terms
Dissatisfied		
Neutral	4	
Satisfied	2	3

Levels of Satisfaction with Diverse Program Elements

"When they hold taking your children away over your head, it causes so much more stress and leads people to relapse." female, terminated

Program Fairness		
	# Grads	# Terms
Dissatisfied		1
Neutral		
Satisfied	6	2

<< >>

"I felt rushed and didn't understand nothin when I went in." Female, graduated

Understanding of Program Prior to Entry		
	# Grads	# Terms
Dissatisfied		1
Neutral		
Satisfied	6	2

<< >>

Understanding of Alternatives to Drug Court		
	# Grads	# Terms
Dissatisfied		
Neutral		
Satisfied	6	3

<< >>

"Sanctions helped me get back on track." graduate

Use of Sanctions

	# Grads	# Terms
Dissatisfied		
Neutral		1
Satisfied	6	2

<< >>

The only reward I needed was getting sober." Female, graduated

Use of Rewards

	# Grads	# Terms
Dissatisfied		
Neutral		2
Satisfied	6	1

<< >>

"None at the beginning but gained it as I went along." Female, graduated

Respect Given by Drug Court Team

	# Grads	# Terms
Dissatisfied	1	1
Neutral		
Satisfied	5	2

<< >>

"Never saw prejudice" female, graduated

Team Sensitivity to Race and Gender

	# Grads	# Terms
Dissatisfied		
Neutral		
Satisfied	6	3

<< >>

Help with Non-Drug Issues

	# Grads	# Terms
Dissatisfied		
Neutral		1
Satisfied	6	2

A drug court tenet is that participants' needs will be met with a range of services, not just substance abuse treatment.

<< >>

"Women with children would really benefit from day care while in meetings."

female, graduated

"Sometimes they took kids directly after court appearances, so it was hard on the kids and the mom." Female, graduated

Sources of Negative Experiences in Drug Court

	# Grads	# Terms
Nothing	3	2
Treatment Provider	4	1
DFS		
Judge		
Group		
Family		
Rewards		
Sanctions		
Defender		
Prosecutor		

Respondents source of negative experiences centered around the treatment provider. Some of the complaints focused on the attitude of the treatment provider and some on the way urinalysis tests were administered.

<< >>

“My kids were my strongest motivators.” female, terminated

Most Positive Aspect of Program		
	Grads	Terms
Nothing		
Treatment Provider	2	1
DFS	1	
Judge	3	
Group		
Family		2
Residential		
Rewards		
Sanctions		
Sponsor		

Interestingly, the main source of positive experiences for some respondents was the treatment provider.

<< >>

“Drug Court would be the last place I would go for help (because of the threat of taking kids away.” female, terminated

“They were really concerned for my kids and my welfare. “ female, graduated
“I am satisfied with my outcome. I have been clean for two years.” female, graduated

Overall Satisfaction with Program		
	# Grads	# Terms
Dissatisfied	0	1
Neutral	0	0
Satisfied	6	2

Individuals who had been through Family Drug Court were difficult to track down for interviews. Because just nine of the 141 individuals were interviewed, conclusions cannot be drawn.

THEMES AND IMPLICATIONS:

THEMES AND IMPLICATION FROM THE DATA

Based on the data gathered from all of the sources already cited in this report and those from program year one of this evaluation, a number of themes have emerged that blend both process and outcome results to provide a holistic picture of some of the key elements that are impacting current operation of Missouri drug courts. While some of the following remarks are specific to the major arena of study (ten adult felony courts), much is also applicable to the family court and the two juvenile courts as well. Each of the topics discussed below could merit an extensive exposition on its own but for the purposes of this document, the following summary comments and suggestions are provided.

Stress:

An essential tenet of the drug court concept is that the participant will be provided "wrap around" services, addressing the full range of life needs and that the intervention will not focus solely on the law breaking and/or addiction behaviors. The concept behind this ideology is soundly grounded in addiction and biopsychosocial treatment theory. Over half of all the persons interviewed in this study indicate that their continued drug use was associated with stress reduction and coping with various difficulties in their lives. It is evident that differential assessment of persons for drug court must include examination of a number of spheres of physical, social and psychological functioning to identify critical areas of tension. Individualized treatment plans, a hallmark of the team process, can then be designed to address critical stress areas which are impeding drug use recovery. In this study, several such arenas emerged as particularly salient in distinguishing between those who were successful in the program and those who were not.

Employment is a critical element in successful completion of drug court programs; however, the strictures of the program such as court appearances, treatment contacts, reporting times and testing all provide consistent barriers to regularized full-time work. Employers have to be particularly accommodating to allow for the erratic schedule that many drug court participants must keep to meet their court obligations. This, in turn, limits the employment opportunities that are available for participants. Either the employer has a special affinity for the participant (relative, family friend, etc.) or the job is in a low wage/high turnover occupation. The vast majority of drug court participants are unskilled and have spotted work histories. Obtaining and retaining gainful employment is difficult even without the added constraints of treatment, supervision, testing and court appearances.

With the clear importance of full-time employment to successful outcomes, greater attention needs to be focused on how to facilitate this element. Flexibility

in scheduling treatment and reporting contacts needs to be built into the program. Random testing will always remain an issue and a return to a predictable testing schedule is contra indicated by the data from this study. However, evening and weekend treatment and court sessions are not utilized to the extent that the need indicates.

Cooperative working relationships with employers and job matching services need to be strengthened. The majority of drug court participants, once they find stable employment with an even minimally adequate wage, tend to stay with that job and maintain regular work attendance. This, coupled with the other aspects of the intensive scrutiny they are under, can be positives in selling prospective employers on routinely hiring referrals made by the team. But this initiative also takes efforts on the part of the team to cultivate the relationships and regularly communicate with these employers.

In the official records, transportation is rarely (16%) cited as a constraint on treatment. However, client interviews yield a different picture. "Just the pressure of always trying to find a way to get there was enough to make me want to escape into using again" is typical of the comments volunteered. Many of the participants, for a variety of reasons (revocation, insurance) do not have driver's licenses. Most, in the absence of public transportation, rely on family and/or friends to get them to their various mandated appointments. Early in the intervention, this issue needs to be addressed and the participant assisted in making a specific plan of action to deal with this potential impediment. This may include the case manager working directly with family members to impress on them the importance of their contribution and to obtain firm commitments of cooperation.

Related to both of the foregoing areas is time-management. Most of the drug courts participants have had, at least in the recent past, a chaotic life style characterized by continual changes in living arrangements, jobs, employment and personal relationships. Now they are suddenly faced with the strictures of a heavy schedule of required activities and penalties for noncompliance. There is no question that the structure is essential to program success. The evidence in this area is compelling. What could receive more attention is assistance to the participants in learning how to organize and manage their time so that they can successfully meet their obligations and learn new patterns of regularized behavior that will carry over into other areas such as employment and family functioning.

Nearly two-thirds of the adult participants interviewed, both graduates and terminated, reported that there were important issues in their lives that the treatment process did not address. The differences here were notable by site. In some instances only matters of use and abstinence were considered appropriate to the treatment relationship and a strictly prescribed curriculum was employed. Other therapists provided the opportunity to examine familial relationships,

reflective consideration of self, as well as discussion of concrete environment need issues. The latter treatment personnel are viewed by participants as both more competent and more caring. "He seemed to think that all of life was in that workbook" was a way one respondent characterized the first category of treatment providers.

To the extent that this division can be validated, an important consideration about the competency of treatment providers is raised. There is abundant research done under both NIDA and SAMHSA auspices that clearly demonstrates that a "one size fits all" approach to drug court mandated treatment is not effective. Individualization of the treatment regimen is essential. Core components can and should be included but without attention to the quality of life issues of each individual, programs are relatively ineffective.

Drug court outcomes are significantly different depending on the race of the participant. A number of factors appear to be interacting to produce this result. The primacy of employment has already been described above. Minority participants are less likely to have had a history of full-time employment prior to referral to drug court and are less likely to be in that status while under jurisdiction. Cocaine is the drug of choice of more blacks (41%) than whites (13%) but only 11% of graduates are cocaine users. Prior arrests are slightly higher for minorities than whites and other differences in socio-economic conditions and living arrangements are also statistically significant. Treatment methods and protocols do not, generally, take into account racial, cultural or ethnic differences. The same self-disclosure group technique may be employed without reference to either the gender or racial make-up of the participants.

More treatment providers appear to be addressing some gender issues as a regularized part of treatment than racial issues but these still remain in the minority. One figure that points to the importance of the gender specific stress areas is that 47% of the women in drug court are reported to have been victims of domestic violence. Since there were a number of jurisdictions in which assessing this history was not a routine part of the diagnostic protocol, one can only speculate that the actual number is substantially higher. From national data we know that women are twenty-eight times more likely to victims of homicide in homes in which there is drug use than in those where there are no drugs (Alan Ault, National Institute of Corrections). No one could accurately assess the impact of having abused women as participants in groups that were predominately male had on them. However, female participants do report that discussions of domestic violence, pressures associated with child care and home-making and emotional needs of women were rarely if ever addressed except by some exceptional individual therapists. Where such incidents are reported, the participants describe these interactions as the most important element in their success in the program. But in group "you come across as a bitch if you talk about those things."

Certain requirements of specific courts provide additional stressors for some participants. The need to find a community "sponsor" immobilizes those participants who lack the self-confidence and interpersonal skills to initiate contacts, even when provided with names of potentials to fill the role. The difficult balance for the treatment provider and the team in such instances is striking a balance between holding the client accountable for behaviors that he/she should be able to perform and individualizing the program to account for the particular strengths or weaknesses of the individual. "All participants without a high school diploma will attain a GED certificate as condition of successful completion of the program" sounds like a very good standard but if rigorously and blindly applied to the person with a learning disability (often undiagnosed) it can easily become punitive stress that runs counter to the intent of drug court.

Approximately one quarter of the drug court participants studied had file evidence of significant health impairment. The interview data provide a much higher rate (48%), particularly for individuals with methamphetamine use histories. Drug use, as self-medication for long-standing conditions/ailments is common. It is notable that none of the courts studied regularly does a systematic health screen as part of the diagnostic procedure. With the prevalence of HIV and hepatitis C among the drug addicted population, the absence of such a rudimentary assessment of treatment need is notable. Respondents report that obtaining medical and particularly dental care is difficult because of the costs and lack of insurance. Knowledge of what public resources are available and how to access them was scant among this population and not something regularly addressed in the counseling process. Physical health related stress and employment stress are highly correlated.

Other potential sources of stress that this study examined did not appear to have the impact that had been hypothesized. For instance, childcare for women participants was not reported as problematic by either official observers or the participants themselves. Extended kinship networks were the most commonly used employed resource. Distance to treatment in rural areas also was not listed as an impediment but this may have been included in the issues under transportation described above.

Equity:

In drug courts in Missouri there is an ongoing tension between the doctrines of equity and equality although the participants rarely frame the discussions and arguments in those terms. The former implies fairness, impartiality and justice. The latter requires sameness in quantity, number size, etc. The issues of equity and equality are of central concern throughout the criminal justice system and have particular issues associated with them in drug courts.

Who gets into drug court vs. who does not is a question that this research was unable to answer and what biases, if any, are at work in the selection process. None of the courts studied kept, at the time this research was initiated, a record of who had been referred for drug court but not accepted and thus there is no comparison group. A hypothesis offered by some respondents was that the program is disproportionately "white." Just under 17% of the individuals admitted to drug court are black, almost six times the number in the population of counties these courts serve. However, the proportion, when compared to the felony arrests by race in these jurisdictions is not disparit.

Related to equity and equality there is a sharp philosophical division among courts and even within teams themselves over the use of sanctions. Individualization of participants dictates that each person's behavior be examined and remedial or punitive actions adjusted to that individual's circumstances. Equality would require that like violations receive like consequences, irrespective of the person. A common complaint of participants in all three categories (active, graduates and terminated) was that some people "got away with stuff" while others received stiff sanctions. The participants, as a group, feel that equality is an essential element of "fairness." In contrast, many team members representing the full range of roles, feel that the great strength of the drug court process is its ability to individualize situations and develop interventive plans that are specifically tailored to each person's strengths and needs. From this perspective a uniform schedule of sanctions (weekend in jail for 1st positive UA; seven days for 2nd, etc.) is inappropriate to the very nature of drug court. The participant characteristic data lend support to the individualization model. While 50% or more of the graduates in all gender and race categories had no positive substance tests while in the program, the range of positives for graduates runs from 0 to as high as 19. Terminated individuals have, as one would suspect, a much higher rate of positive tests but nearly one-fifth had no violations of this nature and the range is comparable to that of the graduates. New arrest data indicate that termination is the most usual though not certain outcome. Other aspects of non-compliance are more difficult to measure. Cooperation with the treatment provider, "investment in the process," "positive attitude," etc. are subjective and clinical judgements that are difficult to quantify or communicate to the total group of participants. It appears that if the process of individualization is going to be a central tenet of this program, greater emphasis on explaining it at the outset is required if the apprehension of injustice is to be avoided and even then it is doubtful that such perceptions can be entirely compensated for.

Congruity:

It is clear from the data that this program works far better for some people than it does for others. For instance, the graduation rate for Caucasians is 55.6% as contrasted with 27.8% for blacks and 44.4% for other minorities. Women are more successful than men (58.0% vs. 47.6%) and white women have the highest success rate (61.5%) of any group. Employment history, socio-

economic status and drug of choice appear to be positively related to outcome. Are these variances inherent in the nature of the problem or are they an artifact of the way in which the program is typically structured? This is a difficult question to answer and one that will require further extensive analysis of all the data. However, some observations based on both the quantitative data and that garnered through the extensive interviews are worthy of mention at this time.

Gender and race sensitive treatment efforts are regularly reported by providers but just as regularly dismissed as non-existent by minority and women participants. The general model of intervention used is predicated on a high level of verbal interaction and acceptance of majority culture mores. With a few notable exceptions such as the family court, participants are enrolled in mandatory group exercises in which women and racial minority members are always vastly outnumbered. "Our common problem, not our differences" is the focus of treatment attention even though most minority respondents do feel that their situation is unique and merits consideration.

The relationship between success in the program and employment status is compelling. Sixty-six percent of the graduates had full-time employment before entering drug court and maintained it while in the program. By contrast, only 30% of the terminated group had the same employment history. This correlates to race where 28% of African-Americans were fully employed at the time of entry as contrasted with 50% of Caucasians. During the time span that this study covers, unemployment rates throughout Missouri were at historic low levels but the levels for minorities remained well above those of the white population. No special attention was paid in these programs to assisting minority participants in obtaining and retaining jobs. Where participants were employed and pay rates could be documented, whites had a decided income edge. As one would expect, community socioeconomic status is also strongly correlated with employment and, by extension, with race. Over 51% of the graduates were classified as middle or above in socio-economic status while 72% of the terminated fell into the lower statuses using these criteria.

Intimately associated with the concept of congruity is the idea of relationship and the data on the drug court participants points to them as generally isolates at the time of entry. While three-quarters indicated they had some immediate familial support at the time they began the program, other relationship indices are far lower including extended family (26.8%), social institutions (11.0%) and formal groups (6.6%). The proportion reporting little or no peer support is also very high (73.0%). The composite picture that emerges from these data was reinforced in the interviews where participants of both genders, all races and ages tended to describe themselves as being "loners," not close to anyone, even those they did drugs with. Consequently it is of little surprise that the interviews of graduates contain so many references to the positive relationship that they established with one or more members of the drug court team and how core that relationship was in their eventual behavioral

change. Where individuals did not "connect" to use the common phrase, chances of successful completion were far more remote. Even where they were uniformly positive about the entire team, most frequently graduates could identify one person that they felt strongly about and who had positively impacted their progress. Finding the person who can relate to this population is a challenge, particularly given its diversity and the limited human resource base from which to draw that is available in many jurisdictions. Continued emphasis within the team of the importance of this aspect as well as on-going targeted training is indicated by these results.

An area associated with relationship and congruity is the relative importance of "group" for many participants. The bonds formed in the therapy group carries over into other arenas and many participants come to depend on this structure as their primary reference group. This works well while they are in the program but produces anxiety when they are reaching the end of the treatment term. Little attention is paid in most treatment situations to making connections between the drug court participants and various support networks that may be available in the community. Both graduates and terminated individuals report a feeling of isolation after ending drug court and low participation in social institutions. These impressions reinforce the conclusions drawn in the year one reports and supported by the Technical Advisory Committee on the importance of developing an adequate aftercare structure.

Resources and Costs:

In all aspects of the data collection, process, characteristics, participant interviews and direct observation, an immediate and striking conclusion is the labor-intensive nature of the drug court experience for both the team and the participants. Multiple direct client contacts each week are the rule, at least in the beginning phases of the program. Random urinalysis and weekly staffing by the team require additional time, as does the extensive docket that most of the courts keep. Judges/commissioners of drug courts as well as treatment personnel and case managers have substantially more contact with participants than they would with a typical probation caseload. Required participant investment in both time and effort is substantially greater. "I had no idea how tough it was going to be" was a common response from participants. According to the fiscal data compiled by the Office of State Courts Administrator, the dollar cost per participant in drug courts last year was \$5,042. The Department of Corrections January 2001 *Newsletter* lists its costs per individual under care as \$35.61 per day or \$12, 998 for a calendar year. The relative dollar saving of this community program vs. institutional care is obvious, even if those who were terminated are considered to be program losses. In addition, this research has documented a minimum of 45 babies born drug free to program participants. The medical staff at St. Louis Children's Hospital provided an estimate of between \$240,000 and \$350,000 is first year medical costs for drug addicted babies depending on the severity of

complications. In almost all instances, the care of these children is either paid by public funds or considered uncompensated care that the hospitals offset through other charges. Using the low-end figure as a base, the tax savings accruing from this area alone is sufficient to have more than funded this program for the two-year study period in which these data were compiled.

The post-program arrest and incarceration data also make a compelling cost-benefit argument for the drug court approach. An individual terminated from the program is over four times more likely to be arrested for a new offense in the twelve months after leaving the program as is a graduate. Even more startling than the number of arrests are the days of incarceration resulting from new offenses committed by the two groups. Program graduates had a total of 59 days in correctional institutions while the persons terminated from these drug courts are serving 4449 on new offenses. Again applying the Department of Corrections cost per bed-day of incarceration, the public expenditure on graduates for post-program incarceration was \$2,101 and for the terminated group it was \$158,428.89, some 75 times greater. When these data are expanded to include all days of incarceration served (both for the drug court offense and any new offenses) the cost differential, employing the same formula, is an amazing \$160,957.20 for graduates and \$2,801,652.36 for those terminated from the programs.

Despite the growing evidence of cost-effectiveness of drug courts, from a budgetary perspective they are still viewed as an experimental, discretionary item, subject to the vagaries of the annual appropriation process and competing with other initiatives for funding. Consequently administrators are in the uneasy situation of making commitments to courts, prosecutors, treatment providers, clients and the community at large based on suppositions and hope.

Perspective Change:

Throughout the investigation a commonly expressed theme was the modification of perspective that takes place for all parties, service providers, clients and families, as they participate in the drug court program.

Among the team members, judges most frequently cite behavioral changes as a result of their drug court experiences. For instance, one senior judge who has been committed to the drug court initiative since its inception described himself as having become "a defrocked psychologist." He noted that both staffing and hearing now take longer because "I want to understand the 'why' of the behavior, not just that something has happened." He added also that the drug court experience has carried over into his work with the regular criminal docket where he requires more information and interacts more directly with defendants than he did in the past. At the other end of the spectrum initially is a very senior judge who came admittedly to the drug court with skepticism and reluctance. Beforehand this jurist felt that only a system of strong sanctions

would have impact and even then he doubted that many of the participants would show change. One year later he is a fervent advocate of the individualized model of drug court programming, deeply involved in the staffing process and with an almost encyclopedic knowledge of the characteristics, strengths and weaknesses of the people who have appeared before him. Neither of these judges is "soft" with a particularly high graduation rate but both have followed the directive of the Justice Price to broaden the scope of drug court to riskier subjects and both are investing extraordinary time and energy in this function. A third judge described the process of staffing and weekly interaction with the participants as "infectious - you get involved in their lives."

Changes in perspectives of other team members are less notable. Both prosecuting and defense attorneys tend to maintain vestiges of their respective roles, even in well functioning team settings. Treatment personnel and case managers (Probation/parole, DFS caseworker or juvenile office) are primarily perceived by one another as client advocates (44%) or technical experts (29%) despite the reality that they are frequently the sources of information on non-compliant behaviors leading to sanctions.

Among participants, the mostly commonly reported change has to do with the length of time for the program to be taken seriously. Many studies on probation and/or drug treatment failure indicate that the highest incidence of deviant behavior is within the first two months in the program. This does not appear to be the case with these drug court participants, 49.4% of whom fail in the 90 to 245 day period. Numerous interview respondents report the same phenomenon. A substantial number of individuals (53%) report that they entered the program with the primary motive of staying out of prison. They go through the motions of compliance and test the limits repeatedly. At about the six-month stage they either "get it" or run out of chances. At graduations in Greene, Boone, Buchanan, Cole and Christian Counties researchers recorded the same comments: "Thanks for putting up with me until I realized what this program was really all about." With a few exceptions, people do not enter the drug court program primed to change their life styles. The consistent, concentrated and regularized regimen of surveillance, treatment contact and court appearance eventually leads either to recognition that change is a possible and worthwhile goal or rebellion against the structure and varying forms of noncompliance.

Families also report that their perception of the program changes over time. Initially they view it as punitive with the amount of surveillance, drug testing and treatment contact demands seen as excessive. Clearly some of this is a reflection of what is being expressed by the participant her/himself. But as progress is made and the family members can see the changes, their support grows and frequently they reach the turning point before the participant does because they are able to more clearly view the changes that have been made.

Both of the participant and family change in perception points to what many team members raised as the need for a more thorough and systematic orientation to drug court prior to entry. Over 33% of the participants indicated that they really didn't know what the program entailed when they entered even though they had been given a briefing. In one site, the prosecuting attorney has employed a program graduate to personally conduct an orientation for each referral. The content here goes well beyond the usual list of expectations and rules and discusses the emotional impacts, the changes in life style and habits and the disruption of prior habits that will be required. A member of this research team has suggested developing a video tape orientation using former program participants as a more effective means of preparing individuals for what is in store for them in drug court.

Physical/Mental Well Being:

Substance abuse is officially viewed as a mental illness with its own diagnostic classification and indicators. But the physical impact of drug use is not as well publicized. Improvement in physical condition is reported by both graduates (78.8%) and terminated (60.5%) individuals. A commonly expressed sentiment was "I didn't know how messed up I was" and this has led several courts to being the practice of taking pictures at the time of entry for comparison purposes. Weight gain, stamina and energy are most often cited as physical changes that have taken place. The picture is not, however, all positive. Even those who have been successful in the program, particularly opiate users, still have serious residual medical problems, including teeth and kidney damage that require extensive intervention. Since most of the graduates have marginal incomes and little access to covered health care, future problems in this arena of functioning will continue to grow. In the reports for Project Year 1, it was noted that none of the courts routinely requires a physical examination upon entry. Data from client follow-ups again points to this as a major problem faced by a significant number of drug court participants. The impact of physical impairment on the success or failure of psychosocial treatment has been well documented. To ignore such a critical aspect of functioning may well stunt the force of other aspects of the program. Termination rate for individuals that file data indicated had medical issues was 10% higher than for those who did not. Considering the gross under-reporting on this topic, the evidence may well be significantly stronger.

Mental health and life satisfaction scales show significant positive changes from pre to post drug court, even for those who were terminated. "I was a mess and didn't even know it" was a commonly expressed self-assessment in the interviews. One man described his daily routine of searching for drugs, returning to his apartment and double locking the door, locking the bedroom door behind

him, and huddling on the floor behind a barricaded closet door for hours. He would emerge to steal, hunt for drugs and repeat the cycle.

Although the number of individuals for whom the case files recorded an official dual diagnosis was relatively small (15.1%), the evidence available to the trained clinicians reviewing these accounts pointed to a much higher rate of co-occurring disorders of a level to warrant an Axis I /II label. Among women in particular the data suggesting early familial trauma, including sexual and physical abuse, was pervasive.

Given the high incidence of mental disorders in this population and their well-documented self-medication pattern (50.2% reported this as number one reason for use), more attention to mental status at intake is warranted and close liaisons with qualified mental health providers need to be developed in those areas where the court's contract provider does not have these capabilities. Among the individuals terminated from the program a common theme was that the emphasis on drug use to the exclusion of all other considerations left them bitterly disappointed in the treatment offered and led directly to their re-using. And while there may be a strong component of self-justification in these reports, a crosscheck on the file data also tended to support their self-diagnosis that they had deep-seated emotional problems that antedated the onset of drug use.

Rewards and Sanctions:

Throughout the drug court process runs the theme of rewards and sanctions tied as immediate consequences of behavior. All of the courts are more proficient in the use of sanctions than they are in providing rewards. Sanctions, whether on a schedule basis or individualized as previously discussed, are usually administered in close proximity to the behavior that occasioned them. Rewards, by contrast, are less formalized and often depend on delay of gratification. Participants rate intrinsic rewards as more powerful than extrinsic. The single reward most frequently cited by participants, adult, juvenile and family alike, was praise and recognition from the team, particularly the judge in open court. And while the ultimate reward is termination of jurisdiction and discharge, the change in self-esteem that occurs as the individual maintains sobriety is a powerful element in success. "I like who I see in the mirror" is a commonly expressed sentiment.

The concept of reward/sanction as shaper of behavior is drawn from social learning theory and operant conditioning and this presents a fundamental conflict for drug court proponents that many choose not to directly address. Central to this theory of behavioral change is the construct of successive approximation, i.e., behaviors are either developed or extinguished through incremental change. Some teams appear to informally adopt (or perhaps adapt to) this philosophy,

recognizing effort and relative progress while tolerating a certain level of the aberrant baseline behavior. But this is an uneasy truce between criminal justice ideology and treatment philosophy. Can the team accept some illegal drug use, i.e., law breaking, because it is an improvement over the previous behavior pattern? As one judge put it "Am I supposed to bust this guy for one dirty UA after he has been clean for seven weeks, the longest he has been off drugs since he was fourteen?" Others, particularly those with prosecutorial responsibilities, see this approach as the proverbial "slippery slope" leading to ever greater tolerance in a system that is predicated on no tolerance for crime. The shaky compromise is often that some sanction will be applied, i.e., the deviant behavior is officially recognized and some punitive response given, but the ultimate sanction of program termination, usually followed by penal sentence, is withheld. Inherent in this approach is the difficulty of finding sanctions that are meaningful and appropriate to the individual as well as the various other constituencies of the drug court including other participants, the law enforcement community and general public. This in turn points to the importance of inclusiveness in the drug court planning and administration process, an area of general neglect as documented in the *Missouri Ten Key Components Report* of 2000.

Success vs. Failure:

From the onset of this study the dilemma of an operational definition of success and/or failure has remained. We have chosen to categorize participants on the basis of their legal status, i.e., whether they graduated or were terminated from the drug court program and then to examine the characteristics of each of these groups to compare and contrast on a number of variables including re-arrest and incarceration information. This simple dichotomy provides a convenient way to manage the objective data.

The statistical results (50.4% graduation rate for adults) may be disappointing to some advocates of the drug court movement. Such a response does not seem warranted when the characteristics of the participants are more closely scrutinized and the severity and chronicity of substance use analyzed. For instance, the median age of adults entering the drug court programs is 28 years. The mean age at which these people began using drugs is 14.2 years and nearly 60% of them have had prior unsuccessful professional treatment to overcome their addiction. Allegations of "creaming" to enhance success rates not only are unfounded but in many instances it appears that drug court is being used as a remedy of last resort with the most difficult cases. This was particularly evident in the juvenile justice system where referral to drug court is often the "treatment of last resort" before commitment to the Division of Youth Services.

However the statistical data garnered from characteristics analyses only address a portion of the "success vs. failure" issue and fail to communicate the richness of the information unearthed in this study. Twenty-five point six percent

of the total participants in these drug courts were interviewed in detail. A total of 17% of those who had in one manner or another ended the program were questioned. A composite of those findings is presented in this report under the heading *Multi-Dimensional Determinants of Success*. Those findings address gains in social stability, social interaction, self-sufficiency and self-esteem. But they also demonstrate that those gains are not confined merely to those persons who graduated from the program. A somewhat surprising finding was the high number of DOC incarcerated individuals who felt that the drug court experience had been beneficial in various spheres of their lives, including substance abuse. These respondents were by no means universal in their praise of the program and frequently had pointed and harsh criticism for specific actors within the system. And yet their overall assessment of the program, even among what might be typed as failures, is positive. The overwhelming majority of respondents, including those serving prison sentences, strongly urged that the program be maintained and expanded. "This was the first real chance I had since I was a kid to get clean. I screwed it up but they gave me an honest shot at it" was the summary offered by one inmate.

SUGGESTIONS:

Further Analysis and Change

SUGGESTIONS FOR ANALYSIS AND CHANGE

The Missouri drug court system is a remarkable service delivery system that is, with a laudable measure of success, reaching a most difficult population in the criminal justice arena. It is easy to find things to praise, including the obvious commitment and dedication of the drug court professionals of all roles throughout the state. But the charge to this evaluation was to examine areas for improvement with the goal of developing best practices. With that end in mind and based on the data gathered during both the process and the outcome phases of this study, several areas that need further exploration and/or policy examination have been identified.

Information Systems:

Inconsistent and/or incomplete information is the rule rather than the exception throughout the system. Comparison data are meager because data are not kept on persons accepted and rejected for admission. No standardized data protocols are in use and each court's data are idiosyncratic. Only rarely is there a centralized file structure that includes social history, legal, treatment and compliance data. With the complexity of these cases and the interagency coordination that must take place, file maintenance is a time consuming task that is often onerous for staff that are already carrying extraordinarily heavy loads. Information on arrests and sentences maintained by the Missouri Highway Patrol is dependent on accurate and consistent reporting from the courts and Department of Corrections. Implementations of existing policies in this area are inconsistent across units. The design of a targeted common data system that can be added to at the local level along with technical assistance in its installation and use needs to be a high priority.

Participant Assessment:

This study identified a number of factors that weigh heavily in whether a person successfully completes the drug court program or does not. Several critical areas are not usually addressed by most courts in the screening and intake phases of the process nor are they incorporated into treatment plans. In many cases, someone within the structure may have some information on the topic but it is not routinely shared with the total team. Among the areas identified that need regular exploration as part of the assessment is domestic violence history as victim, perpetrator or both. Specific techniques in what information to seek and how to obtain it are available but the evidence suggests that few intake staff have been exposed to them. This study reinforces the growing concern for the comorbidity of drug use and other mental illnesses. Evidence of clinical depression and PTSD are rife throughout the cases reviewed. Self-medication is the number one reason for sustained use. The interview data in particular pointed to the need for physical health screening for participants. Currently none of the courts has a routine medical examination as a component of intake.

Communicable disease identification is dependent on the individual volunteering the information. Also noted was a major discrepancy between "life stressors" reported in the files and the information provided in interviews. Transportation and time management issues were central concerns for the clients. A suggested diagnostic protocol combining elements of the pre-sentence investigation protocol used by Probation and Parole with selected items that are of particular import to the drug court (e.g., addiction severity index) and incorporating the items described above should be designed and made available to the courts.

Treatment Emphasis:

While recognizing that either misuse of a legal substance or use of an illegal one is what has occasioned the persons entry into drug court, the unique philosophy of this approach is that it addressed that individual in her/his total life situation. Compartmentalizing the addiction from other issues that the participant is facing does violence to the true nature of drug courts. While most of the teams not only hold this philosophy but work hard at it, in a number of jurisdictions they are hampered because the available treatment providers employ a prescribed treatment approach that excludes other considerations and focuses solely on the substance use. This was the most commonly voiced complaint by both graduated and terminated individuals alike. There is abundant research at the national level that clearly demonstrates that a "one size fits all" approach to drug treatment does not work. When these data are taken together with the primacy of relationship in producing outcome it is evident that care needs to be taken in selection of treatment personnel to see that they understand the obligation of "wrap around" service. Stipulations regarding the kinds and breadth of services to be offered should be included in POS contracts.

Individualization:

Related to the foregoing concerns are those that deal with accommodation to the individual's life situation. The problem here is balance. By its very nature, drug court is designed to provide structure that was absent in a person's life and to impose strictures and discipline to impress upon the client the seriousness of the situation. At the same time the program must recognize and strengthen other vital life roles. The time demands on both clients and providers in this program are very heavy. A number of courts are attempting to ease the burden by such devices as having late afternoon dockets. Some, but not all treatment providers allow evening group and individual appointments. No weekend schedules were found at this time. This latter model is being tried with some success in several metropolitan areas across the country but it requires a significant reprioritizing of time and functions on the part of the agencies and professionals involved. Whether such an approach would be feasible in any of these courts has not been investigated. However, since the time constraints appear to be such an important factor in determining ultimate program completion, a new and creative look at scheduling should be taken with an eye toward experimentation.

Employment:

The evidence suggesting the connection between employment and success in drug court is substantial. A history of full-time employment prior to entering the program and/or full-time consistent employment during the program is among the very best predictors of ultimate graduation. Several reasons for this result can be hypothesized. Gainful employment provides economic stability. In contrast, instability of all kinds characterizes users who have the most difficulty in attaining and maintaining abstinence. Employment provides a foundation upon which to build a sense of self-esteem and self-worth, characteristics regularly absent from the abusers persona. And, as a number of participants pointed out in interviews, when full-time employment is added to the testing, court appearance and treatment schedules, they are kept so busy that the time consuming process of doing drugs just isn't possible. Most courts require either employment or good faith efforts to obtain a job as conditions for remaining in the program. The degree to which this is monitored and verified varies widely from court to court. Assistance in obtaining employment also varies and is often dependent on the initiative of the case manager. Schedule accommodation noted above is a critical issue in the employment area. Data from clients and employers alike document participants giving up work or moving to low paying jobs to meet court/treatment demands. Greater emphasis needs to be placed on the team working directly with employers to grant the required flexibility and the drug court system must also be able to compromise its demands if employment success is to be attained by many participants.

Community Linkage:

One of the few areas in the *Ten Key Component Analysis* in which Missouri drug courts were found lacking was in formal linkages to community resources. Some have taken steps toward integrating law enforcement with very positive effects. However, there still remains little evidence that other critical local systems such as job services, vocational rehabilitation, mental health centers, churches and child care providers are linked to the drug court program. Media relations are maintained and seem to be growing, as data on the courts becomes more readily available. There appear to be three impediments to greater community resource involvement from the court's side. First, traditionally the courts have operated in relative isolation. Certain court officers often developed relations but the court itself did not formally do so. Second, community linkages are time/labor intensive to develop. Frequently the team has made them a lower priority when faced with the immediate case handling tasks. And third, this is a community organization function that many court administrators have not been trained to do. Both making it a higher priority function and providing the staff development necessary to equip personnel to perform this activity are actions that should be undertaken if the successful completion rate is going to increase.

Financial Stability:

A second area of deficit pointed out in the *Missouri Ten Key Component Analysis* was in dependable financial resources upon which the courts could rely on and plan their development. That situation has only been exacerbated in the second year of analysis where funding restrictions have cut budgets, often severely, just when courts had begun to develop. Funding a court for a second year based solely on the number of clients served in its initial year of operation has penalized those who took a careful and gradual approach to program involvement. While some courts have been successful in obtaining local funding for a major part of the expense of drug court, in other jurisdictions such a possibility is remote at best. The majority of courts are still dependent primarily on some form of state appropriation. At this time these funds are still in the "discretionary" category. What is needed in the appropriation process is a protected line for drug courts, not discretionary funding within a general category. Consolidation of funding would significantly aid in establishing efficiency and accountability. Federal funds also provide the opportunity for innovation and some courts have taken advantage of this resource. Technical assistance in searching for and accessing such sources is a need that most of the local courts cannot fill though existing resources.

Screening, Selection and Orientation:

The importance of a thorough screening by the drug court team before participants are admitted is again confirmed by the data in this study. The failure rate of re-entry clients is almost 75% and it is greatest where an individual is sentenced to 120-day confinement to be followed by entry into drug court. In most of these situations, neither the drug court judge nor the team is party to this original decision. Although the motives of the sentencing judge are laudable, the results are predictably poor. Two elements from the client perspective are critical to a successful experience. First, there needs to be at least some level of motivation. Frequently that motivation is just to stay out of prison but if it is strong enough it seems to suffice until others take over. Not surprisingly, and consistent with years of behavioral and attitudinal research, a genuine desire to "get clean" is one of the strongest predictors of success. Second, potential clients need a thorough understanding of what drug court entails and what the expectations and barriers will be. All of the courts provide both documents and oral briefings but participants report that they really understood little of the reality at the time. One court has actually hired a graduate to give a personal and very detailed briefing and interviewees appreciate this service. Noted earlier was the suggestion of an orientation video that realistically portrays the program and expectations. While this might discourage some persons at intake, it would also probably result in a higher persistence to graduation rate.

Gender and Ethnicity:

All of the courts strive to achieve gender and ethnic sensitivity at all steps of the drug court process and that is to be praised. And yet the differential graduation rate between whites and all the minority groups is startling. While it would be easy to attribute this result to the ethnocentrism of a Caucasian service delivery system, that is too simplistic an answer. As noted in the body of this report, there can be a number of explanations for this result including the interaction of economics and race. Nevertheless, in stark contrast to the finding among adults are the results from the juvenile drug court where the treatment provider and deputy juvenile office staffs are proportionately minority themselves. In this jurisdiction, minority graduation rates significantly outstrip those of white youth. In all other circuits, minority staff are either a rarity or totally non-existent. Among adults, white women have the highest graduation rate and most have white female case managers and treatment providers. While this may simply be coincidence it certainly, in light of these data, is an area that bears further detailed investigation.

Success Profile Development:

This study provides a detailed data based on 771 adult drug court, 141 family drug court and 106 juvenile drug court participants. This is not a sample but includes over 95% of all persons who have entered these courts since their inception. As such it provides an almost unparalleled opportunity to conduct a systematic and detailed statistical analysis which will provide practitioners an actuarially sound basis for predicting who will succeed and who will fail in drug courts as they are currently constituted thus allowing for better targeted use of the scarce resources available. Of at least equal importance, such an analysis will give administrators an indication of who the program is not successful with and thus point the way to program modifications so that scope may be more inclusive and some of the current failure cases can ultimately be turned into successes. A review of the literature does not reveal any such comparable analysis having been done on a multi-jurisdictional basis anywhere in the country. This work could be a significant contribution both to Missouri and to the national drug court movement and maximize the tremendous efforts that OSCA, MSHP, DOC and local drug court staffs have invested in this process to date.

ATTACHMENT I

Data Gather Instruments Inter-Agency Agreement

**Used to generate Client Characteristic Reports
Drug Court Project**

Client Data Code Sheet

Respondent Type

01=Judge	09=Client Advocate
02=Commissioner	10=Client Paper File
03=Court Administrator	11=Client Computer-based File
04=Probation/Parole	12=Client
05=Prosecutor	13=Client Sign Other/Family
06=Defender	14=Law Enforcement
07=Juvenile Office	15=Community Representative
08=Treatment Provider	

Complete one form for each court type.

1) County 1. _____ 2. _____

01=Boone County	08=Jackson County (family)
02=Buchanan County	09=Jackson County (juvenile)
03=Butler County	10=Lafayette County
04=Christian County	11=Newton County
05=Cole County	12=Scott County
06=Dunklin County	13=St. Louis City
07=Greene County	14=St. Louis County

3) Data Category 3. _____ 4. _____

01=Participant	04=Provider
02=Process	05=Community
03=Team	

5) Client Status 5. _____ 6. _____

01=Active
02=Graduated
03=Self-terminated
04=Court terminated

7) Individual Client - Assign each client a number 7. _____ 8. _____

9) Age 9. _____ 10. _____

11) Sex 0=Male 1=Female 11. _____ 12. _____

13) Race/Ethnicity 13._____ 14._____

01=Caucasian 04=Native American
02=Black 05=Asian
03=Hispanic 06=Other

15) Number of years of school completed 15._____ 16._____

17) Marital Status @ entry 17._____ 18._____

01=Single/Never married 04=Widowed
02=Divorced 06=Separated
03=Married 07=Domestic Partner

19) Employment Status @ entry 19._____ 20._____

01=Full-time 04=Vocational Training
02=Part-time 05=Employed & Training
03=Unemployed 06=Student

21) Employment Level @ entry 21._____ 22._____

01=Skilled
02=Semi-skilled
03=Unskilled
04=Disabled

Income Sources @ entry

23) Employment Yes or No 23._____ 24._____

25) Family Yes or No 25._____ 26._____

27) Public Assistance Yes or No 27._____ 28._____

29) Transfer payments Yes or No 29._____ 30._____

30) Other (please specify) 31._____ 32._____

33) Monthly income from all sources @ entry 33._____ 34._____

35) Number of jobs while in Drug Court Program 35._____ 36._____

37) Reason for terminating last job 37._____ 38._____

01=Voluntary
02=Involuntary (fired)
03=Legal

67) Age at start of alcohol use – alcohol history 67._____ 68._____

69) Age at start of drug use – drug history 69._____ 70._____

71) Drug of Choice @ entry 71._____ 72._____

01=Alcohol	09=PCP
02=Marijuana	10=Other hallucinogens
03=Cocaine	11=RX Meds (own prescription)
04=Stimulants	12=RX Meds (on the street)
05=Heroin	13=Over the Counter Drugs
06=Other opiates	14=Depressants
07=Inhalants	15=Other
08=LSD	

73) Previous Treatment History 73._____ 74._____

01=Drug	04=Mental illness
02=Alcohol	05=Co-occurring disorder
03=Drug/Alcohol	06=None

75) Alcohol Use History 75._____ 76._____

01=Addictive
02=Binge
03=Social
04=None

77) Dual Diagnosis Yes or No 77._____ 78._____

Constraints on treatment:

79) Child care Yes or No 79._____ 80._____

81) Distance Yes or No 81._____ 82._____

83) Employment Yes or No 83._____ 84._____

85) Health Yes or No 85._____ 86._____

87) Transportation Yes or No 87._____ 88._____

89) Physical Condition – health status 89._____ 90._____

01=Excellent
02=Adequate
03=Impaired (drug-related)
04=Impaired (non-drug)

UA History:

91) Testing frequency: 91._____ 92._____

01=Multiple times per week
02=Weekly
03=Bi-weekly
04=Monthly

93) Total number of positives for: 93._____ 94._____

01=Alcohol	09=PCP	Sub #1_____ #_____
02=Marijuana	10=Other hallucinogens	Sub #2_____ #_____
03=Cocaine	11=RX Meds (own prescription)	Sub #3_____
#_____		
04=Stimulants	12=RX Meds (on the street)	
05=Heroin	13=Over the Counter Drugs	
06=Other opiates	14=Depressants	
07=Inhalants	15=Multiple Substances	
08=LSD	16=Other	

95) Legal Status 95._____ 96._____

01=Diversion
02=Post Plea
03=Re-entry

97) Current Offense 97._____ 98._____

Arrest/Offense History

99) Drug possession (number of times arrested)	99._____ 100._____
101) Other drug offense (number of times arrested)	101._____ 102._____
103) Other non-violent (number of times arrested)	103._____ 104._____
105) Other violent (number of times arrested)	105._____ 106._____

107) Zip Code 107._____ 108._____

109) Date of Current Arrest 109._____-_____-_____

110) Date of DOC Incarceration (if applicable) 110._____-_____-_____

111) Date of Referral to Drug Court
111._____-_____-_____

112) Date of Entry to Drug Court 112._____-_____-_____

113) Date of Start of DC Mandated Treatment 113._____-_____-_____

DRUG COURT EVALUATION
PARTICIPANT SURVEY FORM

Thank you for agreeing to participate in this Drug Court Evaluation. Your time and willingness to complete this survey is greatly appreciated. The quality of our research depends on your willingness to respond to all questions as fully as possible. The information you provide will be kept **confidential**, no identifying information will be included in any report. Your individual responses will not be provided to the court and no legal ramifications can derive from your participation.

1. What do you do with your free-time?

Follow-up, let me give you some examples (go to a club or bar, go to a ball game, go to church, go out to eat, visit friends, etc.)

2. What did you do with your free-time before drug court?

3. **What is your level of education?**
(please indicate grade (1-12), G.E.D., certificate or degree completed)

Prior to Drug Court?

Now?

Completed _____

Completed _____

4. **What is your employment status?**
(please check all that apply)

Time Frame	Full-time	Part-time	Unemployed	Training	Student
Prior to drug court					
During drug court					
Now					

5. **How many months have you been employed in the past year?** ____

6. **How many jobs have you had since drug court ended?** _____

7. **How long have you had your current job?** _____

8. **Why did you leave your last job? (as applicable)** _____

9. **How much do you earn each pay period?**
(please circle the correct pay period)

\$ _____ weekly bi-weekly monthly

10. Have you gotten a raise or promotion in your current job?

☐ No

☐ Yes (Amount \$_____)

11. What other sources of income do you have?
(please check all that apply)

Use as a Prompt or for Clarification		
Income Source	Prior to drug court	No w
Child support		
Family		
Public assistance		
Transfer payments (SSI, disability)		

12. Did you pay restitution in Drug Court?

☐ No

☐ Yes (Amount \$_____)

13. How adequate is your household income?

For Coding Purposes Only	Prior to Drug Court	No w
Not at all		
Can pay for basic needs only (food, shelter, heat, etc.)		
Can pay for ordinary needs (needs and some wants)		
Can pay for everything we want		

Can pay for everything we want and still have money left		
--	--	--

14. Who were you living with prior to Drug Court?

Was that a stable arrangement? (as applicable)

Who are you living with now?

Is this a stable arrangement?

For Coding Purposes Only			
Prior to Drug Court?		Now?	
	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
With husband/wife	<input type="checkbox"/>	With husband/wife	<input type="checkbox"/>
With children	<input type="checkbox"/>	With children	<input type="checkbox"/>
With parents/guardian	<input type="checkbox"/>	With parents/guardian	<input type="checkbox"/>
With friends	<input type="checkbox"/>	With friends	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alone	<input type="checkbox"/>	Alone	<input type="checkbox"/>
No stable living arrangement	<input type="checkbox"/>	No stable living arrangement	<input type="checkbox"/>
In jail/prison	<input type="checkbox"/>	In jail/prison	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

15. If you have children, what is your contact with them?
(please check all that apply)

For Coding Purposes Only			
Prior to Drug Court?		Now?	
	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Live with me	<input type="checkbox"/>	Live with me	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pay child support	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pay child support	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regular visitation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Regular visitation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Irregular visitation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Irregular visitation	<input type="checkbox"/>

No contact		No contact	
Children are grown		Children are grown	

16. Who is there to help you when you need support?
(please check all that apply)

Use as a Prompt or for Clarification			
Prior to Drug Court?		Now?	
Immediate family	<input type="checkbox"/>	Immediate family	<input type="checkbox"/>
Extended family	<input type="checkbox"/>	Extended family	<input type="checkbox"/>
Friends	<input type="checkbox"/>	Friends	<input type="checkbox"/>
People in the community (church, school, social groups)	<input type="checkbox"/>	People in the community (church, school, social groups)	<input type="checkbox"/>
People in treatment (NA/AA, group therapy)	<input type="checkbox"/>	People in treatment (NA/AA, group therapy)	<input type="checkbox"/>

17. How much help do you get from your family?

Prior to Drug Court?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Now?	<input type="checkbox"/>
A lot	<input type="checkbox"/>	A lot	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some	<input type="checkbox"/>	Some	<input type="checkbox"/>
Very little	<input type="checkbox"/>	Very little	<input type="checkbox"/>
None	<input type="checkbox"/>	None	<input type="checkbox"/>

18. How often do you talk with a close friend?

- ☐ Daily
 ☐ Several times a week
 ☐ Once a week
☐ Once a month
 ☐ Less than once a month

19. If you are feeling sad or depressed, how often does someone show they care for you?

☐ Almost always
 ☐ Usually
 ☐ Sometimes
☐ Not Usually
 ☐ Almost never

20. If you want to do something special, how often does someone else want to do it with you?

☐ Almost always
 ☐ Usually
 ☐ Sometimes
☐ Not Usually
 ☐ Almost never

21. How often do people ask for your help or advice?

☐ Almost every day
 ☐ Quite often
 ☐ Sometimes
☐ Not often
 ☐ Almost never

22. How would you rate your physical health?

Time period	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Before drug court				
Since drug court				

Please explain:

23. How would you rate your mental health?

Time period	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Before drug court				
Since drug court				

Please explain:

24. Are you presently taking any prescription medications?

Since drug court ended, have you taken any prescription medications?

25. Since drug court ended, how often have you used alcohol?

26. Since drug court ended, how often have you used drugs?

(please check all that apply)

For Coding Purposes May Use as a Prompt or for Clarification						
Substance	0 times	1-2 times	3-5 times	Monthl y	Weekl y	Daily
Alcohol						
Marijuana						
Cocaine						
Stimulants (i.e., speed, meth)						
Heroin						
Other opiates						
Inhalants						
LSD						
PCP						
Other hallucinogens (i.e., mushrooms)						
Prescription drugs (your own prescription)						
Prescription drugs						

(someone else's prescription)						
Over the counter drugs						
Depressants						
Other Please specify_____						

27. Since you ended drug court, have you participated in any treatment or social services program?

For Coding Purposes May Use as a Prompt or for Clarification						
Service	0 times	1-2 times	3-5 times	Monthl y	Weekl y	Daily
Family counseling						
Group counseling						
Individual counseling						
Crisis center or hotline						
Support group (like AA)						
Alcohol counseling						
Drug counseling						
Psychiatric hospitalization						
Youth clubs						
Big Brothers/Big Sisters						
Health care at clinic						
Housing assistance						
Job training						
Job finding assistance						

Parent education class						
Battered women's shelter						

28. What did you expect to get out of drug court when you entered?

29. Have any of the following areas been changed by your participation in drug court? If so, how?

	Much Better	Better	Same	Worse	Much Worse
Education					
Job					
My Relationships					
My Health					
Children's Health					
Living Arrangements					
Community Involvement					
Life					

Satisfaction					
--------------	--	--	--	--	--

30. Have you had a baby since you entered Drug Court?

☐ No

☐ Yes (If yes, was the child born drug free? ☐ Yes ☐ No)

31. How satisfied are you with the help/support you received from each of the following?

	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	No Opinion	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
Judge					
PO/DJO/DFS					
Treatment Counselor					
Prosecuting Attorney					
Defense Attorney					
Guardian Ad Litem					

Comments:

32. How satisfied are you with each of the following?
(please provide comments as appropriate)

The fairness of the program:

☐ Very Satisfied ☐ Satisfied ☐ No Opinion
☐ Dissatisfied ☐ Very Dissatisfied

Comments:

Your understanding of the program prior to entry:

☐ Very Satisfied ☐ Satisfied ☐ No Opinion
☐ Dissatisfied ☐ Very Dissatisfied

Comments:

Your understanding of alternatives to entering the program:

☐ Very Satisfied ☐ Satisfied ☐ No Opinion
☐ Dissatisfied ☐ Very Dissatisfied

Comments:

The use of sanctions:

☐ Very Satisfied ☐ Satisfied ☐ No Opinion
☐ Dissatisfied ☐ Very Dissatisfied

Comments:

The use of rewards:

☐ Very Satisfied ☐ Satisfied ☐ No Opinion
☐ Dissatisfied ☐ Very Dissatisfied

Comments:

The respect you were given by the drug court team:

☐ Very Satisfied ☐ Satisfied ☐ No Opinion
☐ Dissatisfied ☐ Very Dissatisfied

Comments:

The sensitivity of drug court team members to issues of race and gender:

☐ Very Satisfied ☐ Satisfied ☐ No Opinion
☐ Dissatisfied ☐ Very Dissatisfied

Comments:

The assistance you received with non-drug related issues:

☐ Very Satisfied ☐ Satisfied ☐ No Opinion
☐ Dissatisfied ☐ Very Dissatisfied

Comments:

- 33. Who or what had the most positive impact on you?**
(please identify the individual by title)

34. Was there anyone or anything that had a negative impact?
(please identify the individual by title)

35. How satisfied are you with the overall program:

_____	Very Satisfied	_____	Satisfied	_____	No
Opinion	_____	Dissatisfied	_____	Very Dissatisfied	

Comments:

DRUG COURT EVALUATION
INSTITUTIONALIZED PARTICIPANT SURVEY FORM

Thank you for agreeing to participate in this Drug Court Evaluation. Your time and willingness to complete this survey is greatly appreciated. The quality of our research depends on your willingness to respond to all questions as fully as possible. The information you provide will be kept **confidential**, no identifying information will be included in any report. Your individual responses will not be provided to the court and no legal ramifications can derive from your participation.

1. How many months have you been institutionalized since Drug Court?

2. What did you do with your free-time before drug court?

3. What is your level of education?
(please indicate grade (1-12), G.E.D., certificate or degree completed)

Prior to Drug Court?

Now?

Completed _____

Completed _____

4. What was your employment status?
(please check all that apply)

Time Frame	Full-time	Part-time	Unemployed	Training	Student
Prior to Drug Court					
During Drug Court					

5. Why did you leave your last job? (as applicable)

6. How much did you earn at your last job each pay period?
(please circle the correct pay period)

\$ _____ weekly bi-weekly
monthly

7. Did you get a raise or promotion in your last job?

_____ Yes _____ No

8. What other sources of income did you have?
(please check all that apply)

Use as a Prompt or for Clarification	
Income Source	Prior to Drug Court
Child support	
Family	
Public assistance	
Transfer payments (SSI, disability)	

9. Did you pay restitution in Drug Court?

_____ No _____ Yes (Amount \$ _____)

10. How adequate was your household income?

For Coding Purposes Only	Prior to Drug Court
Not at all	
Can pay for basic needs only (food, shelter, heat, etc.)	
Can pay for ordinary needs (needs and some wants)	
Can pay for everything we want	
Can pay for everything we want and still have money left	

11. Who were you living with prior to Drug Court?

Was that a stable arrangement? (as applicable)

For Coding Purposes Only Prior to Drug Court	
With husband/wife	<input type="checkbox"/>
With children	<input type="checkbox"/>
With parents/guardian	<input type="checkbox"/>
With friends	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alone	<input type="checkbox"/>
No stable living arrangement	<input type="checkbox"/>
In jail/prison	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

**12. If you have children, what is your contact with them
(please check all that apply)**

For Coding Purposes Only Prior to Drug Court		Now	
Live with me	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
Pay child support	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pay child support	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regular visitation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Regular visitation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Irregular visitation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Irregular visitation	<input type="checkbox"/>
No contact	<input type="checkbox"/>	No contact	<input type="checkbox"/>
Children are grown	<input type="checkbox"/>	Children are grown	<input type="checkbox"/>

Who do they live with?

Do you have any other contact with your children? (letters, phone calls,)

13. Who is there to help you when you need support?
(please check all that apply)

Use as a Prompt or for Clarification Prior to Drug Court		Now	
Immediate family	<input type="checkbox"/>	Immediate family	<input type="checkbox"/>
Extended family	<input type="checkbox"/>	Extended family	<input type="checkbox"/>
Friends	<input type="checkbox"/>	Friends	<input type="checkbox"/>
People in the community (church, school, social groups)	<input type="checkbox"/>	People in the community (church, school, social groups)	<input type="checkbox"/>
People in treatment (NA/AA, group therapy)	<input type="checkbox"/>	People in treatment (NA/AA, group therapy)	<input type="checkbox"/>

14. How much help do you get from your family?

Prior to Drug Court		Now	
A lot	<input type="checkbox"/>	A lot	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some	<input type="checkbox"/>	Some	<input type="checkbox"/>
Very little	<input type="checkbox"/>	Very little	<input type="checkbox"/>
None	<input type="checkbox"/>	None	<input type="checkbox"/>

15. How often do you talk with a close friend?

Daily
 Several times a week
 Once a week
 Once a month
 Less than once a month

16. How often do people ask for your help or advice?

Almost every day
 Quite often
 Sometimes
 Not often
 Almost never

17. How would you rate your physical health?

Time period	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Before Drug Court				
Since Drug Court				

Please explain:

18. How would you rate your mental health?

Time period	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Before Drug Court				
Since Drug Court				

Please explain:

19. Are you presently taking any prescription medications?

Since Drug Court ended, have you taken any prescription medications?

20. Between the time Drug Court ended and you were incarcerated, how often did you use alcohol?

21. Between the time Drug Court ended and you were incarcerated, how often did you use drugs?
(please check all that apply)

For Coding Purposes May Use as a Prompt or for Clarification						
Substance	0 times	1-2 times	3-5 times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily
Alcohol						
Marijuana						
Cocaine						
Stimulants (i.e., speed, meth)						
Heroin						
Other opiates						
Inhalants						
LSD						
PCP						
Other hallucinogens (i.e., mushrooms)						
Prescription drugs (your own prescription)						
Prescription drugs (someone else's prescription)						
Over the counter drugs						
Depressants						

Other Please specify						
-------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

22. Between the time Drug Court ended and you were incarcerated, did you participate in any treatment or social services program?

For Coding Purposes May Use as a Prompt or for Clarification						
Service	0 times	1-2 times	3-5 times	Monthly	Weekly	Daily
Family counseling						
Group counseling						
Individual counseling						
Crisis center or hotline						
Support group (like AA)						
Alcohol counseling						
Drug counseling						
Psychiatric hospitalization						
Youth clubs						
Big Brothers/Big Sisters						
Health care at clinic						
Housing assistance						
Job training						
Job finding assistance						
Parent education class						
Battered women's shelter						

23. Are you currently in a drug or alcohol treatment program?

Name of Program _____

Does it offer sanctions and rewards?

If you had not entered this program, were there any alternative programs you could have entered?

Does the program offer any assistance with non-drug issues?

24. What did you expect to get out of Drug Court when you entered?

25. Have any of the following areas been changed by your participation in Drug Court? If so, how?

	Much Better	Better	Same	Worse	Much Worse
Education					
Job					
My Relationships					
My Health					
Children's Health					
Living Arrangements					
Community Involvement					
Life Satisfaction					

26. Have you had a baby since you entered Drug Court?

_____ No _____ Yes (If yes, was the child born drug free? _____ Yes
 _____ No)

27. How satisfied are you with the help/support you received from each of the following?

	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	No Opinion	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied
Judge					
PO/DJO/DFS					
Treatment Counselor					
Prosecuting Attorney					
Defense Attorney					
Guardian Ad Litem					

Comments:

28. How satisfied are you with each of the following?
 (please provide comments as appropriate)

The fairness of the program:

_____ Very Satisfied _____ Satisfied _____ No Opinion
 _____ Dissatisfied _____ Very Dissatisfied

Comments:

Your understanding of the program prior to entry:

_____	Very Satisfied	_____	Satisfied	_____	No Opinion
_____	Dissatisfied	_____	Very Dissatisfied		

Comments:

Your understanding of alternatives to entering the program:

_____	Very Satisfied	_____	Satisfied	_____	No Opinion
_____	Dissatisfied	_____	Very Dissatisfied		

Comments:

The use of sanctions:

_____	Very Satisfied	_____	Satisfied	_____	No Opinion
_____	Dissatisfied	_____	Very Dissatisfied		

Comments:

The use of rewards:

_____	Very Satisfied	_____	Satisfied	_____	No Opinion
_____	Dissatisfied	_____	Very Dissatisfied		

Comments:

The respect you were given by the Drug Court program:

_____Very Satisfied _____Satisfied _____No Opinion
_____Dissatisfied _____Very Dissatisfied

Comments:

The sensitivity of drug court team members to issues of race and gender:

_____Very Satisfied _____Satisfied _____No Opinion
_____Dissatisfied _____Very Dissatisfied

Comments:

The assistance you received with non-drug related issues:

_____Very Satisfied _____Satisfied _____No Opinion
_____Dissatisfied _____Very Dissatisfied

Comments:

29. Who or what had the most positive impact on you?
(please identify the individual by title)

30. Was there anyone or anything that had a negative impact?
(please identify the individual by title)

31. How satisfied are you with the overall program:

_____ Very Satisfied _____ Satisfied _____ No Opinion
_____ Dissatisfied _____ Very Dissatisfied

Comments: